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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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TO MEN WHO THINK

A FEW NUTS TO CRACK, WITH JUICY, NOURISHING AND THOUGHT-STIMULATING KERNELS.

It would be interesting to know the names, also the occupations, of the distinguished residents of Springfield, Ill., who, foiled in the attempt to lynch two Negroes, started a destructive raid. It would be a pity to have the names lost, and lost also the knowledge of the occupation of these shining stars in the firmament of "Law and Order."

Upward soars the number of employees injured by the traction lines in the City of New York. In May there were 622 victims, in June 634, and last month 645. So does prosperity soar.

Quite a homage does the New York "Times" render to the Daily People in its issue of August 10. An editorial passage from the Daily People, and which has appeared only in that editorial, is quoted as a passage in "a pronouncement by the Socialist Labor Party," issued "yesterday." The "Times" would break a leg sooner than mention the Daily People.

The Barnum-Bailey Circus Co. should hasten to engage Messrs. Gompers and Mitchell as their clown tight-rope performers.

"Are you going to endorse the Democratic ticket?" Mr. Gompers is asked. "No," he answers, "Unionism has nothing to do with politics"; and then he issues a proclamation running down the Republicans, praising the Democrats, and urging his Unionists to take heed of his words, or they will have "to reckon with even a worse condition of affairs than now obtains."

Mitchell takes luncheon with Roosevelt at Sagamore Hill. "Did you discuss politics, Mr. Mitchell?" he is asked. "No, our talk was confined mainly to the labor situation."

The "Law and Order" brigade is on exhibition. The millionaire Thaw, acquitted of murder on the ground of insanity, and now in an asylum, is to be set free. How! He (the millionaire) is to be declared a bankrupt in Pittsburgh under that pretext he is to be taken thither; at the bankruptcy proceedings objection to his testifying will be raised; the United States Judge is to hold him sane—and there you are, free he is to murder again to his heart's content. Should one be indignant? Not at all! Let all rejoice to see the "Law and Order" brigade unveil the nasty countenance of their veiled Prophet or Korhassan—Capitalist Law and Order—whom they would have the Working Class adore.

Shocking is the amount of filial ingratitude the Turks are displaying towards their Pape, the Sultan. He has offered to be their Father: one of them answers with an attempt to stab him. He has addressed them as his "beloved children": a whole lot of them organize to chase him out of his traditional home, the Yildiz Kiosk. He addressed them patently out of a window, suggesting that his "ever beloved children" be good boys and cease making so much noise: they yell back ordering that he dismiss one half of his retinue. He gave, or offered to give, his "dearly beloved" children some play money: they rudely demand that he surrender one-half his property.—And all this before they become full-fledged Socialists.

Is not the capitalist world one city? Listen to this squib:
"In the press of this season reports of summer gayeties among the rich of the land alternate with reports of catastrophes that befall the proletariat from year end to year end."

"Here a shipwreck, yonder an explosion, then again a cave-in."
"But none of these at all cloud the sunshine of the happy set."
"On the contrary. The greater the number of accidents suffered by the workers all the more intensely do the wealthy enjoy their good luck of having been born in golden cradles."

Now, then, where is this from? From Pennsylvania, or New York, or Nevada? No. This is a paragraph from the Madrid "El Socialista."

"No money, no love"—that should be the first chapter on Marriage in the capitalist statute book. Mrs. Daniel Leroy Dresser, a millionairess "pillar of the family," whose husband lost his money, has obtained a divorce from the pauper in South Dakota. Now Mrs.

Daniel L. D. is free to marry the clever capitalist who became heir to her husband's millions before his death by the law of grab. No money, no love; yes money, yes love.

The Chinese are refused admission at Ogdensburg while, and whereupon, and made all the easier thereby, a hundred Chinese are allowed to slip through in other places. There is nothing like the enforcement of a law with a great clatter in once place to help promote its violation in silence in a score of places.

The Birmingham, Ala., centre for the dissemination of falsified news injurious to workingmen, toots through all the Republican and Democratic newspapers the tune that "the miners on strike killed three men and injured eleven others by firing into a train" on the Birmingham Mineral Railroad at Blocton. That the miners into the train were paid police spies of the railroad and mining companies, as was regularly the case in the Colorado labor troubles, it is a fact that the Alabama disseminator of falsified news, and his Demo-Rep echoes throughout the land drop no hint about.

Is R. W. Gilder a member of the Lithographic Bosses' Association? It looks that way. The gentleman is writing to the papers praising the late lamented Bishop Potter, saying "there was something chivalric about the man." Decidedly chivalric—as the lithographic bosses can attest. Their employees, tired of being plucked, struck several years ago. The lithographers soon had the bosses on the hip. Then arbitration was called for. The Bishop "arbitrated." He did it so chivalrically that the under dog quickly got on top. The lithographic workingmen never quite recovered of that dose of "chivalry."

There can be no doubt about it. Bryan's acceptance speech has ripped a big gash into Taft. The unmistakable evidence is furnished by the snarl of the Taft-supporting papers. They are angry and upset, through and through. If so unmeaning a Democratic speech can demoralize the Republican camp, what was there to demoralize?

'Tis not in Alabama alone that the police spies are at their work of serious breaches of the peace. In Barcelona, Spain, a mysterious bomb was mysteriously exploded under a bridge, and the newspaper affiliates of the explosion hasten to throw the blame upon the "Anarchists," a name which in Spain, as in America, is made to cover all those who are striving to overthrow the capitalist reign of anarchy.

Not an unlikely story is that which comes from London to the effect that there is a movement on foot here in America to set up a monarchy in the land; that there are 3,000,000 people in favor of the plan; and that Roosevelt is "in it." That the move is intended to "combat Socialism" greatly adds color to the story. It is just the kind of crazy idea that will seize minds crazed with desperation. Drowning men catch after straws.

There are two breeds of ducks. They both quack. One breed, the feathered species, when it hears thunder, it grows frightened and hides its head under its wings. The other breed, when it hears thunder, passes resolutions to the optimistic effect that the thunder is not thunder and can be turned to a choir of angels by so declaring. Of this latter variety of ducks is the "Optimistic League," organized in Montclair, N. J. According to the "Optimistic League" the "best way to hasten the good times is to take an optimistic look of things." Who, after this, would deny the correctness of the definition of a "Pessimist"—one who has met an "Optimist"?

Strikes and movements to raise woman to the dignity of her sex—these are novel manifestations in Turkey. They have come quick upon the heels of the Constitution. They prove that the ice has been broken indeed. If a country, so long dead, can rise to life, it is likely that one, so long alive as America, will fall into torpor?

THREE SILLY BILLIES AND THAT HARD STONE WALL.



THE RAT TOWER OF TO-DAY

Every tourist down the Rhine is told, and every German school child knows, the story of Bishop Hatto, whose "Rat Tower" still stands on a little island in the river, off the town of Bingen.

Hatto, the seigniorial lord of the bishopric of Bingen, forced his serfs to pile high his granaries with corn and wheat, while they themselves were able to retain barely enough to keep them alive at their toil, and nothing at all for the future. A famine overtaking the country, the serfs were perishing, while Bishop Hatto, fat and surfeited, felt not the rumblings of want in his own belly. The serfs petitioned him for succor. He laughed. Their distress becoming more acute, the pleadings rose louder. They offended the episcopal ears. Announcing that on a certain day all who applied would receive corn, Hatto gathered every hungry soul for miles

around into his granaries. The doors were locked upon them, the barns were fired. "Hear the rats squeal!" laughed Bishop Hatto as the cries and groans of the dying reached him.

To-day America is blessed not with one, but several score Bishop Hattos. The Rockefellers, the Goulds, the Ryans the Morges, the Heinzes, the Vanderbilts, the Garys, the Carnegies, the Havemeyers, have all forced their serfs to pile high the treasure in their private vaults, while the serfs subsisted on a wage of \$500-odd a year. Now, in the time of panic, the social conflagration lighted by themselves, these Bishop Hattos are playing golf, cruising in private yachts, or desecrating with their steps the villas of Italian patriots, all oblivious to the destitution, misery, starvation and suicide they have left in their wake. And does it take an over-acute ear to catch on the breeze the identical

grisley gibe of the Bishop of Bingen, now proceeding from their lips—"Hear the rats squeal!"

Poetic justice overtook Hatto. The prophecy of one of his victims was fulfilled. An army of rats—great rats, small rats, short rats, tall rats—besieged him in his episcopal villa. He fled to his Rat Tower in the Rhine, which he had prepared in readiness. The rats swam the river after him, swarmed into the Tower, and ended his execrable existence.

Poetic also the justice which awaits the present-day Bishop Hattos. The "rats"—skilled "rats," unskilled "rats," white "rats," backwards race "rats"—will soon step into control of the industries, and give the Bishop Hattos the free choice of going to work at honest toil, or starving. The Social Revolution will be the "Rat Tower" of to-day.

MISSOURI S. L. P.

HOLDS STATE CONVENTION AND NOMINATES TICKET.

Change of Name Compelled by State Election Laws—"Industrial Labor Party" Chosen for This Campaign—National Platform and Resolutions Adopted—List of Saltwater Man the Ticket.

St. Louis, Mo., August 9.—The Socialist Labor Party of Missouri held its State Convention yesterday at the Headquarters of Section St. Louis, 1606 South 7th street, for the purpose of nominating a State ticket and Presidential Electors.

The convention was called to order by State Secretary Theodore Kaucher. Joseph Scheidler was elected chairman and Theodore Kaucher secretary. C. F. Meier, Joseph Spalti, and A. Kaucher were elected on Resolution Committee. Committee on Credentials: Alex. Kitzinger, F. Till, G. Elbert. All members present were seated as delegates.

In the interest of the agitation the convention was of the opinion that we nominate, besides the Presidential Electors, a complete State ticket, as in either case we would have to have 1,000 signatures in order to get on the ballot. A motion to this effect was carried, but as the election laws of this State state that no two parties can go on the ballot under the same name or part thereof, the convention had to select another name besides that of the Socialist Labor Party. After some discussion the name "Industrial Labor Party" was adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions recommended the adoption of the National

Platform and the resolutions of the late National Convention. The report was adopted.

Electors at Large:
J. C. SANDERS
Kansas City,
C. F. MEIER
St. Louis.

Governor:
B. McCAFFERY
Kansas City.

Lieutenant Governor:
THEODORE KAUCHER
St. Louis.

Secretary of State:
O. M. HOWARD
Kansas City.

Treasurer:
H. J. POELLING
St. Louis.

Auditor:
O. J. SCHWITZGEBEL
Kansas City.

Attorney General:
CARL UNSHELM
St. Louis.

Railroad & Warehouse Commissioner:
JOSEPH SPALTI
St. Louis.

Judge of the Supreme Court:
J. W. MOLINEUX
Kansas City.

After making some recommendations to the State Committee, the convention adjourned sine die.

T. Kaucher.

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GILLHAUS'S LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY'S PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE CHALLENGES THE FIELD.

To the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party:

Comrades:—
I cannot but be deeply sensible of the high honor conferred upon me, by placing in my hands the national standard of the Socialist Labor Party as the proxy for Preston in our movement to overthrow capitalism, and especially in this campaign, the key-note of which is the "Liberation of our Comrade and Fellow Worker, Morrie R. Preston and Jos. Smith," who to-day are illegally deprived of their liberty by the capitalist class. These comrades and fellow-workers are deprived of their right to life and liberty for no other reason than that of having stood by their class, the wealth producers, the Working Class, in opposition to the non-producing Capitalist Class of the nation.

The alleged awful crime committed by our comrade, M. R. Preston, consists in doing what every union man, whether of the A. F. of L., the I. W. W., or any other organization, has a right to do, or is compelled to do, in order to preserve his right as a citizen, a union man and a workingman. In this struggle for the right to life, the working class has got to fight for every inch of the ground. In these days of exploitation it is war between the Workingman Class and the Capitalist Class.

In this war we have the army of Labor on the one side and the army of Capitalism on the other.

The army of Labor has the right to throw out its picket lines, as well as any army of a nation has that right in warfare between nation and nation.

Picketing is not against the Constitution. When our comrade M. R. Preston in the Goldfield strike exercised the right of picketing Silva's restaurant, he was entirely within the province of civilized methods of warfare.

But the Capitalist Class and its political reflex, the Rep-Dem-Ind-parties, who are shouting that we have liberty, and who are holding up to us the Declaration of Independence, especially the first clause, which says that "we, the founders of this Republic, hold to the inalienable right of man to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness"—these politicians, while prating about the right to life, liberty and happiness, deny these rights to the Working Class.

We have heard Sherman Bell's lieutenant, McClelland, who cried in the Cripple Creek battle, "To hell with the Constitution!" We also heard Sherman Bell, who shouted, "Habeas Corpus be damned! We will give them post mortems!"

The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution have been consigned to the waste basket in the interest of the Ruling Class.

What right to life has the Working Class when the Capitalist Class, the class in possession of the industries, can to-day, at one fell swoop, throw between five and six million producers of wealth on the street and deprive them of the necessities of life?

That this happens because of the Capitalist Class being in possession of the industries of the nation and of the political powers of the nation, was clearly shown in the present panic or crisis. The right to life can only be regained by the Working Class taking and holding the industries and controlling that which they produce collectively.

In the case of our comrade, M. R. Preston, we see plainly how the Capitalist Class, when their interests are attacked, quickly put all of the machinery of their power in operation to deprive the Working Class of their liberty.

Had our comrade been one of the exploiters, or Capitalist representatives, such as Theodore Roosevelt, who in the Spanish-American war shot the fleeing Spaniards in the back, it would be heralded as an act of bravery; or, if in some drunken brawl, one capitalist shoots another, as did Thaw or Chester Thompson, then it is a case of "brain storm," or "Dementia Americana."

But in the case of Comrade Preston,

who, in defence of his class, and in defence of the honor of a workingman's daughter or sister, shoots down a murderous assailant, his act is in the eyes of the Capitalist Class "murder in cold blood."

The instance of Preston and Smith is but an aggravation of the condition in which the whole of the Working Class finds itself. It is deprived of the liberty to produce wealth; but we have the liberty to go without food, clothing or shelter, when our masters see no profits in sight. Wealth to-day is not produced for use, but for profit. No profits, then the doors of mills, mines and factories are shut in our faces.

That is the kind of liberty we, the Working Class, enjoy to-day. That is the kind of liberty the Capitalist Class and their political allies, the Rep-Dem-Independent-Pope-Prohibition parties deal out to the Working Class.

The Working Class cannot enjoy the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness so long as it remains a commodity or article of merchandise on the Labor Market.

We find to-day the Capitalist Class in possession of the industries. They do not own them as philanthropists, or because they have any special love for us; nor do they own them to get down and work themselves. They own and control the industries for a specific purpose and that purpose is to make profits. In order to make profits they must have some one to exploit, and that some one is the working, or producing class.

The Working Class must have the necessities of life; in order to get the necessities of life we must sell our labor-power, the only commodity we own and control. When we sell our labor-power we sell it for a number of hours a day at a stipulated wage. Since we cannot segregate our labor power from the rest of our body and send the former into the mine, the mill and the factory, while our body is off to the mountains, or off to Europe, or to the sea-shore recreating—since we cannot do that, when we sell our labor-power to the Capitalist Class, we sell our bodies as well.

When we sell our labor-power we go to the master class and beg them to please allow us to work in "their" factories, mines or mills, and use their tools, the machinery of production. Of course, the Capitalist Class allows us to work in their factories and mills and operate their tools to produce wealth with, but the condition they extort is that all the wealth we produce belongs to them. They will divide that wealth into two shares—one is returned in the shape of wages; the rest, that is, the lion's share, is the profit that is seized by the Capitalist Class.

What portion do we receive, according to the statistics of the Capitalist Class itself? In its census report of the year 1900, we of the Working Class received out of the wealth we produced, and we produced the full 100 per cent., an amount equal to the purchasing power of only 17 cents in the retail market. The other 83 cents were the profits that went to the non-producers, coupon clippers, idlers, and plunderers.

Under this system of exploitation, wherein the Working Class is robbed of four-fifths of its product, and wherein we, the Working Class, are dependent upon the exploiters for very existence, an irrepressible Class Struggle rages fiercely. The right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness can only be brought back by the programme of the Socialist Labor Party, enforced by the combined Working Class using their economic and political power to overthrow the capitalist system.

Comrades, Fellow Workingmen, and all other honest citizens—let the slogan go forth: PRESTON WILL, MUST, AND SHALL BE FREE.

No picketing, no Union; no Union, no Socialist Republic!

Let these be the proletarian slogans everywhere.

AUGUST GILLHAUS.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 5, 1908.

KEIR HARDIE COMING.

Glasgow, August 15.—James Keir Hardie, Socialist member of the House of Commons, left here to-day on board the steamship Hesperian for Canada and the United States. The stated object of Hardie's tour is to try to amalgamate the American and Canadian trades unionists and Socialists into one political organization like the British Labor party.

DEATH TO THE UNEMPLOYED!

Dallas Tex., August 16.—Six unemployed men, traveling in freight-cars in search of work, and stopping off at Amarillo, Tex., were shot to death last night by Charles L. Stewart, a night watchman of the Santa Fe Railroad system, while he was on duty in the railroad yards.

W. F. M. CONVENTION

AGGRESSIVE MINERS' ORGANIZATION FALLS BACKWARD.

Now Seems Fairly on Way to Land in A. F. of L.—Promise of the Days of the I. W. W. Launching Now at End—One Industrialist Unionist on the Executive Board—Hard Fight of the "Rebels."

Boulder, Colo., August 4.—The seven-teenth annual convention of the Western Federation of Miners, after a session of seventeen days, is at an end, and with sorrow it must be said that the organization of which so much was expected, which was long regarded as the most aggressive and advanced detachment of the army of labor, has taken a tremendous step backward and now seems to be fairly on the way to land bodily in that home of economic reaction, the A. F. of L.

To chronicle this is not the most pleasant of tasks. A little over three years ago the W. F. M. played a great part in bringing the I. W. W. into existence. When that was accomplished, many of us thought that, at least, we had entered the home stretch leading to the Socialist Republic. Labor, it seemed, possessed the right idea, was imbued with the right spirit, and was organizing the force requisite for its emancipation. What a day was that! And now, so far as the W. F. M. is concerned, all the glorious promise of that time is at an end. One of the actions of the convention was the complete repudiation of the I. W. W. and the dissolution of any connection between the organizations.

True, this was not accomplished without a struggle. The Industrial Unionists in the convention gave the reactionaries a fight that they'll remember for some time to come; all to no purpose, however. The men who, in 1905, applauded the statement of Haywood that the answer to the charge that, in making the Industrial Union an established fact and opposing craft unionism, they were dividing labor and setting one division at the throat of another, was that the A. F. of L. was not a labor organization—these men, I say, returned "like the dog to his vomit and the sow to her wallowing in the mire." And, not content with repudiating the I. W. W., they entered into an agreement with the United Mine Workers of America, the largest and most powerful constituent body of the A. F. of L., whereby there is to be a transfer of cards between the organizations and an understanding as to what shall be done in the event of a strike.

This agreement between the metal and coal miners is not so bad a thing, by the way. In the past we have seen, time and time again, the lamentable spectacle of coal mined by union miners being shipped into fields where the metal miners were on strike, to their dismay and to the joy of the bosses. We saw Pres. Moyer appeal in vain to John Mitchell to shut off coal supplies at plants where W. F. M. men were out. Now the aid denied them at that time is to be given; but at what a price! The W. F. M. swallows calmly all the unpleasant things said of the craft union, and it requires no great stretch of the imagination to see the men who so freely damned Samuel Gompers in the past sitting at the feast with him and Brother Capital, and "settling" between courses, the differences between men and masters.

The men in the W. F. M. who amount to something, they to whom the revolution is more than an empty phrase, who do not quit when the weight of the burden begins to make itself felt—did not, as has been noted, fall in with the plans of Moyer, Mahoney and Co., but fought for what they held to be right from the first moment of the convention to the last. So far as tangible results are concerned, however, they got little out of it. They were dubbed "the rebels." Our old-time acquaintance, John M. O'Neill, with the delicacy and choice of language for which he is famous, is credited with having referred to them as "coyotes," making the term a little stronger, too, by the addition of one of his picturesque adjectives. The occasion for this was a question on the part of the reactionaries as to why certain communications sent in by locals not beloved by his fellows at headquarters had not been permitted to see the light in the columns of the "Miners' Magazine."

So far as may be determined at the present time, the men who fought for the reformation of the W. F. M. with the I. W. W. secured nothing more than the election of their leader, Joseph Hutchinson, as member of the executive board. Hutchinson declares that, while in office, he will continue the fight to get the W. F. M. back into the industrial union movement. The odds are against him, however, as all the other members of the board and the officers will have nothing of the I. W. W.

The fight for the presidency developed one curious feature. Prior to the opening of the convention it was announced that Moyer would be the candidate of the conservative element, while Haywood would be the choice of the radicals. The latter when questioned as to what he would do, said that "he was in the hands of his friends," which meant anything or nothing. When the contest came on Moyer, as predicted, was the choice of the conservatives, while Haywood was not in evidence—at any rate, not as a candidate or a leader of the industrial unionists. P. W. Flynn, of Butte, made the race for them, but was overwhelmingly defeated. Another old friend of ours, C. E. Mahoney, was re-elected vice-president. Ernest Mills was re-elected secretary-treasurer. James Kirwan declined to let his name go before the convention as candidate for re-election to the executive board, he being now particularly busy in seeking election as sheriff in his home county on the ticket of the Socialist party.

As the W. F. M. has forsaken the path of revolutionary unionism, has become safe and sane, and very much to the liking of the pure-and-simplers, both economic and political, it is not at all unlikely that Kirwan will poll quite a vote. Other actions of the dominant element were the voting of a \$10,000 strike fund and the strengthening of the machine through the deprivation of the locals of the power to call strikes without the consent of the executive board.

And so, with this development of the W. F. M., another dream is ruthlessly shattered. The erstwhile idols of that organization have shown that if their heads are not of gold, their feet are of clay. They have come to the earth with a crash, but for all that I am assured that those who realize the nature of the problem to be solved if labor is to be emancipated, will go through with it to the end, and some of them will be found in the W. F. M. I wish them success.

H. J. B.

MINERS' SONG.

By G. A. Maves, Toronto, Ont., Can.

In a subterranean cell,
Where the dusky devils dwell,
Toiling as they toil in Hell,
Dismal gloom—
Devils too have minds to think,
From the cup of knowledge drink,
And from duty do not shrink,
In the tomb.

"Ho, lads!" comes a voice quite shrill,
But the sound to ears is still,
For it is the heart and will
That respond.
Drills keep pounding underground,
Shovels rattle, picks resound;—
Comes to surface, not a sound
From beyond.

"Ho, lads! See, your lights are dim!
Fill your lamps with oil, and trim
Off your wicks! Then with a vim
To your toil!"
Forms bent low—uneasily place,
Peopled with an early race,
Who were born, with hands and face
Made to soil.

"Ho, lads!" shouts a voice within,—
"Trim your wicks, and cease your din!
Why obey these Gods-of-Tin
In our might?
Are our arms not great and strong?
Needless, then to suffer wrong.—
Let us fill the air with song
For the Right!"

"Ho, lads! Onward to the Light!
Cease your dreaming in the night!
Fill these holes with Thought's own
Might—
Spirit dread!
Clamber up the ladder steep,
To the Light, from darkness deep;
Show the Earth we're not asleep,
Nor yet dead!"

"Ho, lads! Come and slake your thirst!
Devils we, by Angels cursed;—
Angels white, who fear the worst
Yet to come!
They, who wield the sceptre bright,
Fearful, lest we in the night
Slay the beast that brings us blight—
Still and dumb!"

"Royal diadems we fill;—
From the frost we draw the chill;—
To the poor and to the ill
We're a friend.
Yet, the rich man's heart is stone,
All his usefulness outgrown—
Vengeance, lads! Reclaim your own
To the end!"

AN EXCEPTIONAL OFFER.

We would call the attention of book buyers to our exceptional offer of the work, "The New Harmony Movement," by George B. Lockwood, which we will send by mail at the low price of sixty-five cents. The book is cloth bound, 400 pages, illustrated, and is well worth reading.

New York Labor News Co.,
28 City Hall Place,
New York.

PHILADELPHIA BUSY

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY HOLDING EXCELLENT MEETINGS.

Literature Sales Show Interest and Studiousness on Part of Workingmen—Questions as Usual, Add Zest to Street Gatherings—Pushing The People.

Philadelphia, Pa., August 14.—Section Philadelphia, Socialist Labor Party, has not been idle during the summer, although it has not been heard from very often. The Section has been handicapped by lack of speakers, but in spite of this it has held two open-air meetings a week right along. Literature sales have been good, considering the hard times, and the interest taken by the workers has been encouraging.

Last Saturday night the usual meeting was held at 40th street and Lancaster avenue. Lutherman, Erwin and Anton were the speakers, and a large crowd listened to what was said, with evident interest. When it arrived at question time, things got lively and the crowd increased. One individual seemed to be very wroth at the idea that Socialism would enable every worker to get the full product of his labor and so would lose all ambition. He continued to interrupt Anton while the questions were being answered, and although offered the privilege of the platform he refused. The crowd finally closed him up.

One questioner seemed to think that hard times had been caused by the immigrant coming here and settling down, but Anton replied that only those who couldn't get the money to go back had stayed, which seemed to catch the humor of the crowd, who greeted the answer with laughter and applause. The sale of literature was good at this meeting.

Sunday night saw us at the City Hall Plaza with Anton as principal speaker, and a fairly good meeting was the result. Wednesday night, at Broad street and Columbia avenue, we were again on deck, with Edmund Seidel of New York as principal speaker. Seidel chose for his subject, "Why you should vote for the S. L. P. and why you should join the S. L. P." He spoke for over an hour to a fair-sized audience, which stayed throughout the entire meeting.

and asked questions at the finish, which were ably answered by Anton. The results of this meeting were three applications for membership, and the largest sales of literature we have had at any meeting this summer. Seidel is booked to speak again on Saturday night at 40th street and Lancaster avenue, and Sunday night at City Hall Plaza.

Last night the regular business meeting of Section Philadelphia was held. A campaign committee was elected consisting of Anton, Muller and McClure, who will also handle The People sub list and endeavor to extend the circulation of the Party organs. The matter of the Press Security League was entrusted to a special committee with Lutherman as secretary, which ensures it being handled vigorously.

After a lengthy discussion Hugh Bolton was nominated by acclamation as the candidate for the Section for N. E. C. from Pennsylvania, in place of McConnell, resigned.

R. McLure,
Secretary Agitation Committee.

GREAT DROP IN FOREIGN TRADE.

Washington, August 12.—Exports for July were \$37,153,531. In July, 1907, they were \$44,344,129. For the first seven months of this year, which includes July, exports were \$476,160,066. For the same period last year they were \$570,113,666.

Cotton exports for seven months this year were \$203,776,674. For the same period last year they were \$234,100,666.

Wheat exports for seven months this year were \$41,467,607. Last year they were \$23,890,538 for the same period. Mineral oil exports for the seven months amounted to \$60,629,473, against \$46,686,857 for the same seven months last year. The figures are from the bureau of statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor.

1,500 THROWN OUT OF WORK.

Pawtucket, R. I., August 11.—The American Machine Co., formerly Howard & Bullock, manufacturers of textile machinery, has given notice that the plant will be closed for a week beginning next Monday. Over 1,500 operatives are affected.

To accord with Post Office regulations, this paper must be stopped the instant a subscription runs out. To avoid delay in getting your Weekly People, watch the number on your wrapper and renew in advance.

PLATFORM

Adopted at the National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party, July, 1904, and Re-adopted at the National Convention, July, 1908.

The Socialist Labor Party of America, in convention assembled, reasserts the inalienable right of man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We hold that the purpose of government is to secure to every citizen the enjoyment of this right; but taught by experience we hold furthermore that such right is illusory to the majority of the people, to wit, the working class, under the present system of economic inequality that is essentially destructive of THEIR life, THEIR liberty and THEIR happiness.

We hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be controlled by the whole people; but again taught by experience we hold furthermore that the true theory of economics is that the means of production must likewise be owned, operated and controlled by the people in common. Man cannot exercise his right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without the ownership of the land and the tool with which to work. Deprived of these, his life, his liberty and his fate fall into the hands of the class that owns those essentials for work and production.

We hold that the existing contradiction between the theory of democratic government and the fact of a despotic economic system—the private ownership of the natural and social opportunities—divides the people into two classes: the Capitalist Class and the Working Class; throws society into the convulsions of the Class Struggle; and perverts government to the exclusive benefit of the Capitalist Class.

Thus labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party raises the banner of revolt, and demands the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist Class.

The time is fast coming when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises, on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalist combinations, on the other hand, will have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of America to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them.

And we also call upon all other intelligent citizens to place themselves squarely upon the ground of Working Class interests, and join us in this mighty and noble work of human emancipation, so that we may put summary end to the existing barbarous class conflict by placing the land and all the means of production, transportation and distribution into the hands of the people as a collective body, and substituting the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production industrial war and social disorder—a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

TO STREET CAR MEN

A ROUSING BULLETIN WHICH ALL OF THEM SHOULD READ.

Executive Committee of the Street Car Employees of Seattle, Wash., Issues Statement to the Men of Their City and Elsewhere Which Should Mean Something Doing in the World of Labor.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 11.—The Executive Committee of the street car workers has issued as "Bulletin No. 1" the following address to the street car employees in Seattle, Wash., (and elsewhere.)

Fellow Workers:—

Since the squeeze given our employers during the money panic last fall, we, the street car workers, have been driven at such a desperately high rate of speed in order to increase their already enormous profit on the capital invested and thus enable them to recoup the fortunes purloined from them by their more shrewd and powerful fellow capitalists, that the time has come for us to bestir ourselves, to rouse our sleeping manhood and what little self-respect is left within us. In other words we must get together and unitedly not simply cry "Halt!" to the merciless mental and physical lashings we are receiving, but fearlessly and determinedly put a stop to this unparalleled exploitation, by taking the reins of ownership and the lash of management entirely and forever away, not only from the small body of capitalists who own and control this particular system of transportation, but also from the larger body of capitalists who own and control all the other wealth of the nation, and who through their subsidized press, through their hirelings in the legislative halls, in the courts, and on the police, are driving us to the limit of our endurance, and forcing conditions upon us worse than were ever the conditions forced upon the slaves of antiquity, crushing, maiming, disfiguring if not dismembering the bodies of our fellow workers and those we hold dear; overtaxing us with long and irregular hours of ceaseless toil that make sleep and even the performance of organic functions impossible, breaking down our bodies to an extent that does not leave a physically sound man among us; imposing upon our minds such intense and stunning exactions and duties both when at work and when not at work; overwhelming us with such heaps of petty, peevish and humiliating criticisms and fault-finders; expecting us to carry the responsibilities of the whole service, yet treating us as if we were children and totally void of sense; and all that a few parasites may fatten and while away their useless and worthless lives in idleness and debauch.

Conditions Hellish and Appalling.

Verily, fellow workers, our condition is appalling and hellish indeed. To think that we and we alone without the least assistance on the part of our employers are conducting and managing this whole system of transportation, carrying millions of passengers yearly, taking in hundreds of thousands of dollars. And then we hand it all over to our do-nothing employers and get in return what? Fine houses with large and spacious rooms, heated and lit up with electricity? Downy Brussels carpets, porcelain bathtubs with hot and cold water running at all hours? Refrigerators crammed with juicy meats, vegetables and fruits in season, not to mention a few bottles of choice wines to brace us up when we return home after a heavy day's travel? Wardrobes with rows of latest-patterned clothes, of materials adaptable to the changeableness of the weather, with passes to the opera and the symphony concerts tucked away in the inside pockets?—things which a fraction and, mind you, a fraction only of what we are entitled to for our work would procure us if we in our idiotic simplicity did not allow our masters to appropriate to themselves our earnings?

Ah, no, Fellow Workers, these things and such as these are not for us during the present system of exploitation. If they were we might not feel so much the ignoble and degrading position as wage slaves and might, as do some of our apparently more fortunate fellow slaves, willingly submit to the exploitation and even lend a hand in intensifying it. But when in return for our childishly faithful efforts to please our employers by more minutely and indefatigably applying ourselves to the carrying on and managing of the service, we get but vicious insults and reproaches; when, by submitting without a murmur to the exasperatingly ceaseless and health-wrecking hours of toil we get but more exasperatingly ceaseless and health-wrecking hours

of toil then indeed must we be non compos mentis if we do not revolt and put a stop to this infernal state of affairs.

The Question to Be Solved.

The question, therefore, fellow wage slaves, which is up for our consideration, to-day; the question that will be up for consideration to-morrow and the day after to-morrow; aye, the question that will be up for our consideration until it is finally and forever settled, is not the question of getting a little more butter on our bread; it is not the question of buying a seven-and-a-half-cents a yard shirtwaist for our wives instead of a two-cents a yard one. Nor is it the question of getting a hand-me-down suit of clothes for ourselves, or of making up for the loss in wages which an occasional day off entails. Oh, no, Fellow Workers, these are not the questions, even though they be of considerable importance just now.

The real question, the vital and all important question which must, which ought to, and which will be up for our consideration until it is finally disposed of as pleases us, is the question of abolishing the present system of wage slavery, thereby overthrowing the all-pervading capitalist system of downright robbery to which we are subjected, and inaugurating in its stead a social state of society that will afford every able bodied man and woman the desired opportunity to work and make it imperative that equivalent values be the reward for service rendered.

However, before we can accomplish this we must have a thorough knowledge of our own strength, both intellectually and numerically, so that we may know when to act, and when we do act, to act unitedly.

This does not imply that we must have a college or university education in order to knock down and out our exploiters. Not at all. What it does imply, however, is that we must know and feel our own importance as well as recognize the superfluity and uselessness of our employers. We must know and feel that we and we alone are necessary in carrying on our industrial relations with one another; that we and we alone are entitled to the wealth we create and that all others are parasites sucking our life blood and therefore our enemies.

But that is not all. We must also know and feel that appearances, at times to the contrary notwithstanding, our fellow workers are our only friends, and that therefore we must stand by them in their hardships and adversity, for only through mutual sympathy and co-operation can we grow strong enough to cope successfully with our masters, and wrench from them the power that now enables them to keep us in bondage.

In other words **We Must Be Class Conscious.** Once we have become class conscious, the battle is won and the victory ours. And just in proportion as this class consciousness and subsequent class-solidarity become apparent among us, just in that proportion will the Bread and Butter and allied questions be solved and eliminated. For just in that proportion will our employers, the capitalist class, see the necessity of relinquishing their claim to the fruits of our labor; and just in that proportion will we become free and be recognized as free men and women and not slaves.

The Importance of Getting Together.

Let us, then, get together and stay together. Let us extend the aiding and shielding hand at all times to our fellow workers. Let us cultivate a spirit of inquiry and observation of our masters' doings, that we may anticipate any intent on their part to create dissension and jealousy among us. Let us show our enemies that no longer can they befool or beguile us by supposed favoritisms or preferments; let us show them that the time for buncombe is past, and that no longer can they find ignoble and willing tools among us to drive and betray our fellow wage workers even though a supererogatory job be for a short time the reward for the sacrifice of our manhood and self-respect. And lastly, let us show them these cowards, that an injury to one of us, is an injury to all of us, and therefore will be resented by all of us.

Just as manure, though filled with vermin and a stench in the nostrils of the fertilizer, proves an excellent regenerator of worn-out soil if judiciously applied, stimulating it to bring forth healthy crops of vegetation, so long hours of ceaseless toil at starvation wages, uncomfortable, crowded and squalid conditions in and about our dwelling places; poor, adulterated, and insufficient food for our families; ragged and shoddy clothes for ourselves; misleading if not stupefying schools for our children, teaching respect for the parasitic capitalist robber class and meek submission to their exploitation; etc., etc.; all of these, though excretions from the capitalist system of production for profit, yet prove excellent fertilizer for the mind

AMONG THE MINERS

S. L. P. PROPAGANDA EAGERLY SOUGHT IN ILLINOIS.

Large and Interested Meetings Show Their Appreciation by Large Purchases of Literature—Miners All on Short Time, and Population on Verge of Destitution.

St. David's, Ill., August 9.—I have held five meetings during the week, with a total sale of 52 books; also secured one subscription to the Daily People and nineteen to the Weekly.

The first of these five meetings was held in Kingston Mines, a little mining camp just below Peoria, on the Illinois River. Rivermen and miners made up the audience, and with one exception they all received and appreciated what was said. This one exception attempted to play the smarty and got whipped for his pains. I found the miners in a poverty-stricken state in this camp. They are working only two days out of the week.

After a good night's rest at the hospitality of a man who was a close attendant at the meeting and purchased a deal of literature, I left next morning for Canton. Located in Canton is a plant called the P. & O. Plows Works, which, when in full blast, exploits in the neighborhood of twelve hundred men. I attempted to get in but failed. All of the windows and doors are covered with heavy iron screens, and at every entrance is stationed a watchman. The proper name for this place should be the P. & O. Prison. The slaves working on the inside of this prison have become so meek and docile, that the masters found it a very easy matter to organize them into a company of militia, so that whenever the occasion arrives they will be able to do yeoman's service for the oppressors.

In Dummerline a meeting was held last Wednesday night. A good crowd of miners turned out and the meeting was a success. We held forth again the following night in St. David's another mining camp close by, and met with the same success as on the previous night.

A good supply of books was sold and several subs secured at both meetings. The mines in these two camps are working only three days out of the week, and with conditions getting steadily worse. To get that part of the working class who allow themselves to be led to the belief that reforms are a good thing for their class, I only have to call their attention to the "Certificate of Competency" imposed upon the miners as a glorious reform. In this case the miners are compelled to cough up to the tune of \$1 for the privilege of telling a fake Examining Board consisting of three political buzzards what the color of their eyes and hair is, also their age, height, weight and nationality, in order to hold on to their jobs in the mines. This is only one of the many acts of John Mitchell to prove him to be one of the worst traitors the miners ever had to contend with; yet he, along with the reformers, has been telling the miners what a great benefit this Certificate of Competency is to them.

The miners are catching on, however, and the day is coming when the Lewises and Mitchells won't have the easy time they are having now and have been, but on the contrary will get all that is coming to them and a little bit more. A sympathizer named Williams and I went to Canton Saturday night and held a meeting in front of Court Square.

A good crowd gathered to hear the S. L. P. message, and to show their appreciation, twenty books were purchased.

The future looks bright for the S. L. P. in this vicinity, and with the seed sown I hope to hear of a section being organized in the near future.

Will leave to-morrow for Havana and Jacksonville. At the latter place I will get the co-operation of Turner, the old war-horse, and hope to be able to send in a good list of subs from there.

Charles Pierson.

of the proletarians, when used as object lessons, stimulating them to revolutionary action on both the economic and political field, that must and will bring forth a healthy system of social co-operation.

Let us then benefit by the cruel lessons given us in the past: apply our experience of the present and make the future ours.

Yours for the abolition of wage slavery,
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SEATTLE STREET CAR EMPLOYEES.

It is announced that the next bulletin will contain an outline of the form of organization essential to the street car men's emancipation, and suggestions regarding political action, the indispensable weapon to the successful decapitation of the present wage system.

MAN AND THE MACHINE

A WORD TO THE LABORER BY A REPUBLICAN ORATOR, THAT IS FULL OF MEAT.

By Robert G. Ingersoll.

Invention has filled the world with the competitors not only of laborers, but of mechanics—mechanics of the highest skill. To-day the ordinary laborer is for the most part a cog in a wheel. He works with the tireless—he feeds the insatiable. When the monster stops the man is out of employment, out of bread. He has not saved anything. The machine that he fed was not feeding him—the invention was not for his benefit. The other day I heard a man say that it was almost impossible for thousands of good mechanics to get employment, and that, in his judgment, the government ought to furnish work for the people. A few minutes after I heard another say that he was selling a patent on cutting out clothes, that one of his machines could do the work of twenty sailors, and that only the week before he sold two to a great house in New York and that over forty cutters had discharged.

Every side men are being discharged, machines are being invented to take their places. When the great factory shuts down, the workers who in it it and gave life to it, as thoughts the brain, go away and it stands there like an empty skull. A few workmen, by force of habit, gather about the closed doors and broken windows and talk about their distress, the price of food and the coming winter. They are convinced that they have not had their share of what their labor created. They feel that the machines inside were not their friends. They look at the mansion of the employer and think of the slums where they live. They have saved nothing—nothing but themselves. The employer seems to have enough. Even

when employers fail, when they become bankrupt, they are far better off than the laborers ever were. Their worst is better than the toiler's best.

The capitalist comes forward with his specific. He tells the workman that he must be economical—and yet, under the present system, ECONOMY WOULD ONLY LESSEN HIS WAGES. Under the great law of supply and demand, every saving, frugal, self-denying workman is unconsciously doing what little he can to reduce the compensation of himself and his fellows. The slave who did not wish to run away helped to fasten the chains upon those who did. SO THE SAVING MECHANIC IS A CERTIFICATE THAT WAGES ARE HIGH ENOUGH. Does the great law demand that every worker live on the least possible amount of bread? Is it his fate to work one day, that he may be able to get food enough to be able to work another day? Is that to be his only hope—that, and death?

Capital has always claimed and still claims the right to combine. Manufacturers meet and determine upon prices, even in spite of the great law of supply and demand. Have the laborers the same right to consult and combine? The rich men meet in the bank, the clubhouse, or parlor. Workmen, when they combine, gather in the street. Capital has the army and navy, the legislative, the judicial, and the executive departments of government. When the rich combine, it is for the purpose of "exchanging ideas." When the poor combine, it is "conspiracy." If they act in concert, if they really do something, it is a "mob." If they defend themselves, it is "treason." How is it that the rich control the departments of government? In this country the political

power is equally divided among men. There are certainly more poor than there are rich. Why should the rich control? WHY SHOULD NOT THE WORKERS COMBINE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTROLLING the executive, legislative and judicial departments? WILL THE WORKERS EVER LEARN HOW POWERFUL THEY ARE?

In every country there is a satisfied class—too satisfied to care. They are like the angels in heaven, who are never disturbed by the miseries of earth. They are too happy to be generous. This satisfied class asks no questions and answers none. They believe the world is as it should be. All reformers are simply disturbers of the peace. When they talk low, they should not be listened to; when they talk loud, they should be suppressed.

The truth is to-day what it always has been—what it always will be—those who feel are the only ones who think. A cry comes from the hungry, from the oppressed, from the down-trodden, from the unfortunate, from men who despair and from women who weep. There are times when mendicants become revolutionists—WHEN A RAG BECOMES A BANNER, under which the noblest and the bravest battle for the right.

How are we to settle the unequal contest between men and machines? WILL THE MACHINE FINALLY GO INTO PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LABORER? Can these forces of nature be controlled for the benefit of her suffering children? Will the workers become intelligent enough and strong enough to become the owners of the machines? Will these giants, these Titans, shorten or lengthen the hours of labor? Will they give leisure to the industrious, or will they make the rich richer, and the poor poorer?

ANSWER TO CRITICS

BY H. H. LANE, ON THE APPROVAL OF PRESTON'S NOMINATION.

I take the liberty of copying the last issue of a communication from George Preston of San Francisco, published in the Daily People of the 10th inst., without any spirit of criticism; on the contrary, would like to have those lines pasted in the hat of every workman in the country; therefore think they will bear re-reading; they amount to a sermon in themselves.

As we not be hero worshippers; we did do for Preston what we did for Wood. When the working class does we will know it's on a sound basis."

A consequence of some words of mine published in The People I have been gently criticised, and there has been an intimation that I am inclined to be a hero worshipper, which soft impeachment I deny emphatically.

As well balanced Socialist can be a mass worshipper or hero worshipper. Any professed Socialist who is so afflicted is deficient in his Socialism to that extent at least, and on a critical examination doubtless will find some further defects.

I do not worship Preston, but it is natural we should admire the act of a brave man in a clear-cut defense of his own life, or of woman. But there is another kind of courage even more admirable, as it is more rare. It is called moral courage. It inspires one to stand up for his conviction upon any and all occasions. These two kinds of courage I find happily combined in Preston, making his personality doubly admirable.

My friendly critics perhaps think they should have some attention. I feel the same myself; but they must realize how nearly impossible it would be for me to reply to each individually. Considering that each may think he is the only one, and I am lacking in courtesy, I will make a list of the objections and answer them as well as I can, trusting to the kindness of The People to find space.

To begin with, friends, I want to say I appreciate and welcome your criticisms, and should, even if they were in a less kindly spirit. Whatever I say or write for public circulation is a just subject for criticism and I personally am responsible. Your criticisms are the more welcome as indicating enterprise and moral courage.

1st. That Preston is ineligible for the Presidency under the Constitution, because of his youth.

2. That he is in prison undergoing a long course of imprisonment and could not be inaugurated.

3. That he is not the most fit man in the S. L. P. for President of the United States.

4. There are other members of the working class in the country who are equally with Preston victims of the capitalist class who are legally eligible to the Presidency.

command an abler pen than mine, but having put my hand to the task I will not turn back.

1st. Is conceded, but we must, with all respect for this antiquated document, realize we were in no sense responsible for its formulation; it was the work of men long since dead who knew nothing of the needs of the 20th century. It was constructed largely in the interest of private capitalism and by the means provided for its construction it is made wholly so, but the Declaration of Independence, which is a little more ancient, and more universally revered, recognizes the right of the people, when their form of government does not suit them, to throw it off and establish another that will suit their purposes better. Vox Populi vox Dei. But the Constitution in no wise forbids the citizens voting for any person for President who is not 35 years old, or was not born on this sacred soil. Should they do so and elect such a one, he will be pretty likely to be seated.

2nd. We all know that and it also is conceded. But if elected—as he will be as surely as the sun rises and sets upon election day, provided the working class as a class desire it—he may rest assured he will be inaugurated. Prisons are but trifles when they impede the will of the people.

3rd. Is conceded also and is a subject of congratulation as giving great con-

WIFE DESERTION.

Hard Times Gives Rise to Epidemic of It.

As one effect of the crisis, an epidemic of wife-desertion has struck the poorer districts of this city. Reports which the Children's Aid Society has received from its visitors in the eight districts where the society maintains its branch stations of the Sick Children's Mission, show this to be the case. One visitor has found twelve deserted wives in one neighborhood within a month.

The reason for these desertions, as explained by this visitor, Mrs. Edith K. MacArthur, of the East Eighty-eighth street station, is the hard times. Mrs. MacArthur bases her assertion upon a comparison of the conditions in her neighborhood before the financial panic threw thousands of its residents out of work, and the conditions which exist there now.

"Where last year," she said, "I found only one or two cases of deserted wives in my district, I have stumbled across a dozen in one month. When it is considered that the recent cases were revealed by a very superficial inspection of part of my territory, the situation becomes appalling."

The district in which Mrs. MacArthur's station is situated stretches from Sixty-sixth street to One Hundredth street, and from Second avenue to the East River.

Immediately relief is tendered the suf-

ferers, and, whenever possible, the deserted wives are put to work. The work of the society along these lines, however, is said to have been badly handicapped this year by lack of funds, as the regular work of the society—that of caring specifically for children—has increased to such proportions, owing to the hard times.

On top of this report on wife desertion due to the hard times, another statement just issued by the Charity Organization Society shows that great destitution continues to prevail in Manhattan and the Bronx.

Reports from the ten district offices of the society show without exception that distress in the districts in which they are situated not only continues acute, but that the present amount of destitution and unemployment severely forecast another winter of exceptional destitution. Nor does the percentage of increased work in the district offices seem to fall off as the summer advances. For instance, the number of new applicants in the district offices for help from the society was, in July, 160 per cent. greater than the number of new applicants for help as in July, 1907.

Then, again, the number of families which it is necessary to help again after a period of self-support, is a barometer of prevailing conditions. In July of this year over twice as many families as in the previous July were forced to apply a second time for help.

I. T. U. CONVENTION

VICTOR BERGER STARTS TO BORE ON THE FIFTH DAY.

And Is Speedily Bored into Silence When He Starts to Talk Politics—Spectre of Corrigán's Syracuse Case Still Haunts President Lynch—Hearst's Boston American and the Newsboys' Strike.

Boston, August 14.—The fifty-fourth convention of the International Typographical Union convened at 10 a. m. August 10, at Ford Memorial Hall. The delegates, numbering about 400, were called to order by Norman McPhail, chairman of the local reception committee, who first introduced the Rev. J. H. Waldron, Chaplain of the Massachusetts State Senate, who offered prayer.

Second Day.

The report of the committee on laws, which consisted of a report of 106 propositions submitted by different delegations and the executive council was read.

Seventy-four of these propositions were disposed of by 12:30 noon (thanks to the rapid rulings of the chair), among which were only a few that might interest the readers of The People. These dealt with the extension of the referendum principle, which heretofore had applied only to questions pertaining to the constitution of the I. T. U., and which in the event of the several amendments being adopted would give the membership an opportunity to vote upon questions which now come under the head of General Laws.

The discussion upon this point took a decidedly interesting turn, and gave the visitor an opportunity to judge the intelligence of those taking part in the debate. Some argued in favor of the democracy involved in the referendum, and said they believed in centralization of administration, but to leave the right of final authority in the keeping of the rank and file through the referendum. The opposition pleaded too much work, faith in their officials, etc. One delegate from California was in favor of abolishing the referendum altogether and leaving it all in the hands of their trusted officials; still another delegate from Florida said, "If we extend this principle of the referendum any further, we may as well disband as a trades union and reorganize as a Socialist party."

After some further discussion the unfavorable report of the committee (that is, against the extension of the referendum) was concurred in.

Fourth Day.

On this day a speaker was introduced as one beloved by every workman in the United States, John Mitchell, ex-president of the United Mine Workers and now in the employ of the National Civic Federation. Mr. Mitchell received a tremendous and continuous ovation from the delegates and audience. He started in by saying he knew he was addressing a body of men who had fifty years experience in trades unionism and he would not attempt to give them any advice on their organization, but if he spoke at all he wanted to say something worth while. He said: "I have no constituency; I have the honor of being past president of the United Mine Workers for ten years and I can say that the miners were fighters and their fights on some occasions had shocked the consciences of some of the American people, but in all the fight they have had I was never in favor of a strike until I had exhausted every honorable means of peace. After all my experience I have concluded that it is better to pursue a different policy than that which we have been pursuing. I believe that industrial strikes and lockouts should be avoided until employers and employees have done all in their power to settle their differences through a humane and just method, arbitration. I have decided to devote the rest of my life towards furthering this idea amongst trade unionists. I would like to see every man and every woman who works for a living belong to a trade union. I don't know whether the interests of capital and labor are identical or not, but I do know that the differences as to the division of profits which are resultant from their joint energies can be decided by a joint conference where they meet on a basis of equality. A union man should be a better worker than a non-union man, and a union employer should be a better employer than a non-union employer. The coal miners have increased their wages one hundred per cent. in one year and reduced their hours of labor about 30 per cent., and that was mainly through arbitration. We must recognize the right of employers to close their establishments as well as the right of the workers to strike. I am glad to say that my experience in the trade union movement has led me to believe that

better times are coming and the trade unions are increasing numerically and also intellectually."

Mr. Mitchell then, after tremendous applause, took his seat and the convention, still under the head of the report of committee on laws, started to discuss what is known as the priority law, which law was still under discussion at the time of adjournment at 5:30 p. m.

Fifth Day.

Under the report of the committee on finance a resolution to assist financially Local Seattle in a law suit brought against them by T. Johnson, a suspended member of the I. T. U., was referred to the Executive Council. It seems Johnson had been suspended for the violation of some local law, and after his suspension he went to Los Angeles and ranted on the Los Angeles "Times." He left Los Angeles and went back to Seattle and applied for reinstatement. While his application was pending he brought suit against the union for \$30,000, and received judgment for \$3,500. The local union has appealed and they request that financial assistance be given.

During the discussion on this proposition a delegate from Syracuse took the floor and said that he had had considerable experience in matters of this kind in the past and he could call upon Pres. Lynch to verify this statement. He said that some years ago a member of the I. T. U. of Syracuse, N. Y., who was also a member of the Socialist Labor Party of that city had a bad habit of standing on a soap box on the street corners and charging Pres. Lynch of the I. T. U. with all kinds of malicious conduct. There were no names too bad for the president that this man would not utter and the local union decided to take him to court. This man's name was Charles Corrigán and "we" fought him in the court and the result was that he was awarded \$1,500 damages against the union. Instead of pushing this case as the Seattle delegates desire to push theirs, "we" were sensible enough to settle with this man Corrigán by giving him \$700 and taking him back into the union. The total cost was near \$2,000.

Pres. Lynch opposed giving assistance to Seattle on the ground that the local had not proceeded against the suspended member in accordance with the constitution, and favored referring to the Executive Council, which disposition was finally made of the matter.

Delegate Nolan of Boston submitted a proposition instructing the I. T. U. delegates to the next A. F. of L. convention to support the action of the executive council of the latter body calling for submission of all questions involving a boycott to the executive council of the A. F. of L. Nolan, arguing in support of this proposition, said that his object in introducing it was to avoid a repetition of a disgraceful situation brought about in Boston some time ago by the Central Labor Union instituting a boycott against a strictly union newspaper, the Boston "American," such boycott being instituted at the request of the Newsboys' Union. He held that the Newsboys' Union, although affiliated with the Central Labor Union, never should have been, and that the boycott was instituted against the "American" for the simple reason that the management had increased the price of papers to the newsboys, the right which any employer or manufacturer has to increase the price of his product (OR IN OTHER WORDS, THE TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION DELEGATES WERE TRYING TO JUSTIFY THEIR SCABING UPON THE BOSTON NEWSBOYS). This resolution was unanimously adopted.

Another interesting proposition was submitted by a California delegation, to the effect that the I. T. U. withdraw from the A. F. of L. because the A. F. of L. had gone into politics. This proposition was also killed. The committee on political policy then rendered a report. They submitted a declaration which committed the I. T. U. to a strict non-partisan policy, but requested the members to take a more active part in politics than ever before, and to determine their actions in the light of the experience of the officials of labor organizations who have in the past attempted to secure labor legislation. It also favored postal savings banks, municipalization of public utilities, abolition of the electoral college, and many other middle-class reforms. They also recorded unfavorably on a proposition submitted by an Alabama delegate to endorse William Jennings Bryan.

At this juncture Victor Berger, the practical, took the floor for the first time during the five days' convention. This was certainly a wonderful exhibition of boring from within. No sooner had Berger finished saying that not alone was he opposed to Bryan but he was to Taft also, than the delegates shouted, "Sit down!" "Cut it out!" "Beat it!" "Get the hook!" and so forth. Points of order were raised galore, and Berger's five minutes being up, the chairman forced him to take his seat amid the jeers of many delegates; and the borer from within was completely crushed.

A. E. R.

SECTION CALENDAR.

Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements. The charge will be five dollars a year for five lines.

Section San Francisco, Cal., S. L. P. Headquarters, Hungarian Socialist Federation, Lettonian Socialist Labor Federation, 883 McAllister street.

Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading rooms at 409 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Wednesday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

Section Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P., meets every alternate Sunday at 356 Ontario street (Ger. Am. Bank Bldg.) top floor, at 3 P. M.

Headquarters Section Cincinnati, O., S. L. P., at 1414 Race street. General Committee meets every second and fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Hungarian educational meetings every Wednesday and Sunday. Open every night.

Section Allentown, Pa., S. L. P., meets every first Saturday in the month at 8 p. m. Headquarters 815 Hamilton street. Section Providence, R. I., 81 Dyer st., room 8. Regular meetings second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

New Jersey State Executive Committee, S. L. P.—John Hossack, Secretary, 22 Fulton Ave., Jersey City; Fred Gerold, Financial Secretary, 102 Waverly St., Jersey City, N. J. Chicago, Illinois—The 14th Ward Branch, Socialist Labor Party, meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday, 2 p. m. sharp, at Friedmann's Hall, S. E. corner Grand and Western avenues. Workingmen and women are cordially invited.

Section Seattle, S. L. P., headquarters, free reading room and lecture hall, No. 2000 Second avenue. P. O. address, Box 1040.

Section Salt Lake, Utah, meets every Wednesday, 8 p. m., Rooms 4 and 5, Galena Block, 69 East 2nd St. Free Reading Room. Weekly People readers invited.

All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Otto Olson, 310 7th ave., So. Minneapolis, Minn.

Section St. Paul, Minn., S. L. P., holds a business meeting every second and fourth Sunday in the month at 10 a. m. at Federation Hall, cor. 3rd and Wabash streets.



UNITY

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Owing to the limitations of this office,
correspondents are requested to keep a copy
of their articles, and not to expect them to
be returned. Consequently, no stamps
should be sent for return.

| SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES. | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| In 1888 | 2,068 |
| In 1892 | 21,157 |
| In 1896 | 36,564 |
| In 1900 | 4,151 |
| In 1904 | 54,172 |

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their subscriptions are sent in.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1908.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY
PRESIDENTIAL TICKET.

For President:
AUGUST GILLHAUS.
Engineer, New York, as Proxy for
MORRIE R. PRESTON,
Now in the Nevada State Penitentiary
for the legitimate exercise of the right
of self-defense on picket-duty, and
whom delicacy prevents from per-
sonally appearing on the ballot.

For Vice-President:
DONALD L. MUNRO.
Machinist, Virginia.

Power holds violence in but little
dread, for power can smother violence in
blood; but power fears IDEAS, which
neither lead nor steel can ever kill.

—EUGENE SUE.

BRYAN JUST SHORT OF ARTEMUS.
Fully five times in the course of his
acceptance speech, pronounced on the 12th,
does Mr. Bryan ask the question: Shall
the people rule?

There is no law imaginable that will
enable propertyless people to rule. Rule
is an attribute of property. He who
holds property rules; he who holds none
is ruled. For the people to rule in fact
they must be property-holders. Only
then is rule other than tyranny. The
question, Shall the people rule? implies
they do not rule to-day. The fact of
their not ruling reflects the fact of their
being propertyless, through no fault of
theirs. The affirmative answer to the
question, Shall the people rule? obviously
requires propositions that shall enable
the people to acquire the property neces-
sary for rule, and requisite to prevent
being tyrannized.

Not once is Mr. Bryan's question fol-
lowed by the only answer the question
demands.

Conspicuous by its absence is all pro-
position that shall disable the holder of
capital—the product of "larceny by law"
—from plundering the workers of the
full four-fifths they are plundered of to-
day, and thereby barred from rule.

Conspicuous by its absence is all pro-
position that shall guarantee to the
workers the opportunity to work, and
shall insure them against enforced idleness,
seasoned with starvation for them-
selves and their families, whenever the
holder of capital sees no opportunity to
knock profits out of the toil of the
workers.

Conspicuous by its absence is all pro-
position that shall even remotely reform
the capitalist canon that holds wealth,
though the product of Labor, to be the
reward of idleness.

The question, Shall the people rule?—
a question that bobs up repeatedly in
Mr. Bryan's speech—is left each time un-
answered. Soon as asked the answer is
dropped, and the Orator of the Platte
flies off warbling some unresponsive tune.

Thus did Artemus Ward in one of his
lectures keep his audience roaring. The
subject of the lecture—"Africa"—was
never touched upon. Again and again
the lecturer stopped to say: "I am to
speak about Africa," and then forthwith
proceeded to tell some joke that had no
more to do with Africa than sun-spots
have to do with panics. The jokes thus
retailed gathered steam through their irre-
levancy, until the last roar of laughter
greeted the lecturer's closing words:
"Well, ladies and gentlemen, as to Africa,"

you can find out all about it on the map
—I'm no map."

Mr. Bryan's speech closed abruptly.
He had followed Artemus Ward as a
model up to just before the close. His
closing sentence should have been:
"Gentlemen of the Notification Commit-
tee, as to, Shall the people rule? you can
find all about it in the platform and
literature of the Socialist Labor Party
—I'm no Socialist."

ROOSEVELT AS SHANGHAIR.

With a great array of trumpets another
letter has just issued from the Complete
Letter Writer, housed at the Federal
Capitol. This time the letter is on the
subject of "better social, sanitary and
economic conditions on American farms."

The epistle is addressed to Prof. L. H.
Bailey of the New York College of Agri-
culture. It starts with the startling an-
nouncement that "no nation has ever
achieved permanent greatness unless this
greatness was based on the well-being of
the great farmer class;" it then pro-
ceeds to sing the praises of the great
progress made by that self-same farmer
class of America in well-being; and then
goes on to state that, this notwithstanding,
"the social and economic institu-
tions of the open country are not keep-
ing pace with the development of the
Nation as a whole." In confirmation of
this last assertion the opinion is quoted
of a physician, "a careful student of
farm life," who declared that "person-
ally, from the health point of view," he
would prefer to see his own daughter, a
9-year-old girl, "at work in a cotton mill
rather than have her live as a tenant on
the average Southern tenant one-
horse farm."

Of course, the last statements do not
tally with the first set. Indeed, the last
are correct, and are the cause of the
epistle.

By all sociologic tests, the property-
holding inhabitants of the "open coun-
try" not only are not "keeping pace"
with the development of the Nation as a
whole, they are going backwards and
sinking down. It is not the so-called
"backward races" from Europe who con-
gest most of our cities. The largest
contingent is furnished by "the great
farmer class" and mostly out of the "old
native stock." The causes that lead to
this result are the causes that are ur-
ging on the overthrow of the capitalist
system of iniquity.

Time was when the farm was attrac-
tive. In those days there never was any
real difficulty in obtaining "farm hands."
Those were the days when the "farm
hand" of to-day became the farmer of to-
morrow. It was the days that ran
parallel with those when the employe,
mechanic or servant in the cities could
look with confidence to the time when
he would be his own master. As those
days changed in the cities, they changed
also in the "open country," leaving,
however, the "farm hand," or rural pro-
letarian, in an infinitely worse pickle.
Bad, and often even horrible, as the con-
dition of the urban proletarian became,
the very crowd in which he found him-
self furnished him opportunities, on the
one hand, to eke out a living somehow,
or the other, to assert himself, and
thereby mitigate the weight of his
chains. In other words, the evils suf-
fered by the urban proletarians were
evils of capitalism that came accom-
panied with certain opportunities for
individual assertion that capitalism af-
fords. With the rural proletarian it was
and is otherwise. The evils of capital-
ism did not and do not bring to him any
alleviation; on the contrary, they thrust
him back into virtually feudal conditions
of servitude. Rural magistrates readily
assume feudal functions. Not a shadow
of "equality before the law" falls to
the propertyless in the "open country."
There he is helpless—helpless in the
"change of a master"; helpless in the
opportunity to turn his hand to a new,
or different job; helpless to assert him-
self politically, or otherwise. The rural
jails are old style feudal dungeons. No
wonder the "farm hand" fled and flees
to the cities for asylum; no wonder the
flow of "farm hands" to the "open coun-
try" dries up, despite all siren songs to
lure it thither.

There is a sort of retribution in capi-
talist development. The farmer who
sought to play the feudal lord soon found
himself stranded like a clam at low tide.
He was not left merely without serfs
in the shape of "farm hands," he soon
found himself rioting in natural oppor-
tunities that went to waste for want of
the necessary capital to operate them.
Railroads and moneylenders rode him as
he had ridden the "farm hand." He tried
to bring about the "good old times." The
ignorance in which the press, owned by
the identical railroads and money-
lenders kept him, encouraged him in the
delusion. What followed eclipses all
tragedies known. The farmer exploited
and crippled himself, his wife, his chil-
dren in the hopeless attempt to encom-
pass the "good old times." He sank
deeper and deeper into the quagmire.
There is more insanity to the square inch
in the "open country" than in the "closed
country." The old sailor's saying that
"he who would go to sea for pleasure
would go to hell for pastime," has been
justly adapted to the "open country."

"he who would take up farming for
pleasure would travel to hell for pas-
time" has become a proverb.

The Complete Letter-Writer in Wash-
ington is well aware of this. In his
epistle to Prof. Bailey he but appears
in the role of a shanghaier—trying to
shanghai the unwary onto the farmer's
ship, hence singing the praises of the
happy life of Captain Farmer, whose
progress towards happiness, though rapid,
should be made still more rapid by
means of committees to promote his
"social, sanitary and economic condi-
tion."

HOW, "HOLD IT?"

The New York "Evening Journal" has
issued a handbill containing some advice
upon how to become a free man.

Who would not be free? According to
the "Evening Journal," the thing is dead
easy. All that needs to be done is to
buy real estate, the right kind, and hold
it.

There is a double absurdity involved
in the proposition.

The first is that it amounts to saying
that, in order to become a free man, a
man must start with being free. He
who has money enough to buy real
estate of the right kind can hardly be
pronounced non-free from the "Evening
Journal" standpoint.

The second absurdity is no less so.
"The wise man will buy and hold a
piece of this earth for himself," sayeth
the wisdom-impartor on the "Evening
Journal." Aye, indeed! Hold it! That's
the rub!

There is not, between real estate and
other lucrative property, any material
difference—except in that the holding of
real estate is much harder to the small
holder than is his holding of a small
shop.

In the matter of both, competition
drives the small holder to the wall and
flattens him out. If the small holder be
a holder of real estate, then he is in even
a worse hole. Upon his head blows a
rain and hail storm that the holder of a
small shop is exempt of. The small
holder of real estate is the victim of
assessors—a peculiar vermin of capital-
ist-republican production. Assessments
for "gradings"; assessments for cutting
roads; assessments for keeping them in
repair; assessments for a score of other
purposes, which, like blackbirds, come
nobody knows whence, and evaporate,
nobody knows whither.

If the small shop-holder is kept busy
chasing the wolf from his door, the small
real estate holder is worn out chasing
away, not one wolf, but a whole pack of them.

A STRAY-LIGHT ON IMMIGRATION.

Last week the grotesque reasoning was
exposed to which the Jingo instinct of
Mr. Robert Hunter led the gentleman
when he attributed the decreasing birth-
rate of the native stock to the floods of
European immigrants. An even more
serious assault upon Socialist thought is
embodied in Mr. Hunter's claim that, but
for the unlimited immigration of Pol-
ish, Roumanian and Russian Jews, Ital-
ians, Hungarians, Irish, Germans, etc.,
etc., the native stock of America "might
have peopled the United States with the
seventy millions which now inhabit it."

We do not know what Mr. Hunter's
extraction is. Assuming him to be of
the "native stock," then, had immigra-
tion been wholly excluded, and the orig-
inal 3,000,000 "native stock" been left
to populate this country all to them-
selves, Mr. Hunter's ideal—then, instead
of Mr. Hunter being the physically and
mentally attractive gentleman that he is,
he would be one of the seventy millions
of dribbling idiots who would by this
time constitute the land's population.
The extent to which inbreeding would
have had to be carried on, for that 3-
000,000 to breed 70,000,000 in about a
hundred years, renders doubtful whether
the 70,000,000 would be at all above the
mental and physical condition of Ya-
hoos, incapable of self-maintenance as a
nation.

But there is worse than a biological
conception at war with Socialist fact in
Mr. Hunter's theory. His theory is at
war with sociology and ethnology them-
selves.

The "native stock" of America tried
and, fortunately for this country, failed
in the identical attempt which the na-
tive stock of South America also tried
but, unfortunately for their countries,
succeeded in—the keeping out of immigra-
tion. Since the days of Tacitus the
principle was discovered that that State
is fit for empire that is liberal to the
immigrant. All subsequent experience
has since confirmed the principle. It is
no accident that the identical Lincoln,
who issued the emancipation proclama-
tion, also sent to Congress the luminous
messages that urged the legislature to
oil the hinges of the nation's gates to
the immigrant, and when arrived, endow
him bountifully. What South America
is to-day, that would this country be if
the "hordes from Europe" had not rush-
ed in.

Socialism, the great ocean into which
flow all the intellectual conquests of the
human race, knows but one race—the
Socialist race; it knows but one creed—the
Socialist creed; it knows but one

nationality—the Socialist nationality.
To naturalize all the world in, and raise
its peoples to the dignity of that na-
tionality, race and creed is the sublime
mission of the Socialist Movement. The
mission is sublime because its aspira-
tion is planted upon fact, not upon senti-
ment—that most dangerous of founda-
tions, which lead to one of two ex-
tremes: either altruistic helplessness, or
Robert Hunter self-centered petrifaction.

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE
"SOCIALIST PARADISE?"

Admiral Sperry, together with the of-
ficers of the American fleet, now in New
Zealand waters, are being shown the
Islands by Sir J. G. Ward, the Prime
Minister. We read of their being taken
to the races, to Rotorua, to the hot
baths, to the inauguration ceremonies
of new baths, where the rich refresh
themselves; to the garrison quarters,
etc., etc. There is one thing no mention
is made of as being pointed out for the
admiration, or scorn, as the case may be,
of the visiting marines. That thing is
the Socialist Paradise.

Outside of New Zealand the papers
are full of the said Paradise. Enter-
prising Editors have raised collections
to send reporters to New Zealand, to
bestow through their pen upon the rest
of the world a knowledge of the detailed
b tics of the Paradise. Whenever
things that should not happen afflict our
people, forthwith we are informed by
enthusiastic reformers that such things
never happen in the Paradise of Social-
ism—New Zealand. Do wages go down
here?—that happens never in the Para-
dise. Do workmen go on strike here
and are then shot in the back by Sher-
iffs?—never in the Paradise. Are our
streets crowded with starving unemploy-
ed—the thoroughfares of the Paradise
are crowded only with affluent, well fed,
well groomed workers on whose faces
shines the oil of contentment. In short,
the Paradise is in New Zealand and New
Zealand is the Paradise of Socialism.

With the impression upon our minds,
created by such glowing descriptions of
the New Zealand Paradise, we have felt
sure the New Zealand authorities would
tote our marines to the Paradise, and
exhibit its beautyspots. Nothing of the
sort happened. The Paradise is not
mentioned—any more than it would be
in the instance of foreign visitors to
America. Indeed, there is a painful
omission of any allusion to the Paradise.
There is worse. The only things men-
tioned are utterly un-paradisical, at
least un-Socialist, paradisaical.

John Swinton once told a story of his
experience with the Single Tax. When
he left New York for a trip to England,
he was told here: "There is no Single
Tax in New York, but the Movement
is strong in London." Arrived in Lon-
don he inquired after the Single Tax.
"None here," was the answer, "but it
is powerful in Glasgow." Arrived in
Glasgow and again inquiring after the
elusive Single Tax, the answer was:
"None here, but mighty strong in Brook-
lyn." Swinton returned to New York,
crossed over to Brooklyn, inquired, only
to learn: "No Single Tax here, but in
Australia—there the Single Tax is car-
rying everything before it."

Can it be that the New Zealand So-
cialist Paradise likewise vanishes with
the approach of a visitor?

S. L. P. AGITATION IN NEW YORK.

All Districts Alive and Speaking to In-
terested Audiences.

The open air meetings in New York
continue to be very successful.

At a meeting held Monday, Aug. 10,
at 5th street and Avenue B, Steron,
Weiser and Lefkowitz spoke to an ap-
preciative audience of about 250.

Seventeen Jewish, 8 Hungarian, 4
German and 3 English pamphlets were
sold.

Leaflets to the number of 300 were
distributed at the meeting and 20 sig-
natures gathered on the nominating peti-
tion.

The 30th and 32nd A. D.'s, too, are
holding very good outdoor meetings this
year.

At a meeting held last Thursday, Aug. 13
on 125th street, between 3rd and Lexing-
ton avenues, 40 Weekly Peoples and 10
pamphlets were sold, besides a goodly
number of leaflets distributed at the
meeting.

Notary McCormick gathered 26 signa-
tures on the nominating petitions.

The meeting was a good one in every
respect.

The audience, which was quite large,
stood from the opening till the end of
the meeting, so interested were they in
the speeches ably delivered by Hunter,
Levine, and J. Donohue.

On Monday evening, August 10, the
Ninth Assembly District, S. L. P. held
an open air meeting at 38th street and
8th avenue. F. Britz acted as chairman.
While the platform with the pole and
banner was being put up, there were
quite a number of workmen assem-
bled, eager to hear the words of the
speaker. In opening the meeting Britz
stated the purpose and aim of the So-
cialist Labor Party, and introduced Do-
nohue as the first speaker. In prob-

AT LAST!

The above is the title under which
Thomas W. Lawson winds up the "gen-
eral educational" part of his work to
show "just how the people's billions have
been tricked into the hands of the few."
If Lawson were a woman, the sex of
which it is said that the most important
part of their letters is put into the post-
script, he could not have done better
than he did in the fat-lettered post-script
with which he winds up his wind-up.
Says Lawson: "The volume of business
of the stock exchanges will not be less-
ened a fraction during the coming four
years by the election of Bryan, Hisgen
or Debs instead of Taft. Prices will be
influenced, of course, by the election of
Bryan, Hisgen or Debs, but the same ups
and downs will be applied to the seventy
billions of stock—it is the ups and
downs that do American people out of
their savings."

At last!—indeed.

At last there has come from the wordy
pen of Lawson a thought pregnant with
sense.

Ups and downs of stocks is the means
by which the plutocracy carries on its
raids; these raids are a feature of capi-
talist society; and the feature will not
be lessened by a fraction whether "Bry-
an, Hisgen or Debs, instead of Taft," is
elected. This sentence is the correctest
yet framed by Lawson. It is correct in
the names it mentions, and correct in
the name of the one Presidential candi-
date that it omits—Gillhaus, Preston's
proxy.

Lawson, the stock gambler, realizes, as
stock gamblers can best realize, that the
victory of the Socialist Labor Party
would be the only political victory that
would put an end to the ups and downs
of stocks, because, when the day of that
victory shall have come, the foundation
for the ups-and-downs raids will be up-
rooted—a thing that no other political
victory could encompass.

And Lawson is right.

Taft, Bryan, Hisgen are plain sup-
porters of capitalism. He who says A
must admit Z. The A of capitalism im-
plies the Z of the ups-and-downs raids
of the stock exchanges.

As to Debs's party, though it denies
capitalism, it is a thing in the air. A
kite without a tail—such as all political
party of Socialism must needs be that
ignores the necessity of the revolutionary
economic organization of Labor as the
ready "army of occupation" to take and
hold and administer what the Socialist
ballot proclaims should be wrenched
from the hands of the capitalist class.
Moreover, that party, true to itself, is
impotent, not in that respect only, it is
impotent in other, and kindred ones. It
stands upon the principle that divides
the international proletariat into "super-
rior" and "inferior," or "forward" and
"backward" races; and, last, not least, it
accentuates its disruptive nature by the
circumstance that, due to its Pecksnif-
ian rejection of the Socialist Labor
Party's offer of unity, the sad spectacle
is presented in this campaign of divided
Socialist forces.

That the victory of such a party, if
such a thing were at all possible, would
not lessen by a fraction the ups-and-
downs raids of capitalism is obvious.
Capitalism would remain in the saddle,
being in possession of the industries;
the victors, or, rather, their misguided
followers, would be locked out and
thrown upon the streets, there to be
mowed down by the Sherman Belts the
moment they gave expression to their
hunger; the plutocracy would quickly
"buy cheap" in a "down" market, to sell
dear soon as "peace reigned once more in
Warsaw" and the market was "up"
again.

Lawson has long twaddled. At last
he hit bull's-eye.

style and with great logic Donohue pre-
sented to the audience, who by that time
numbered more than one hundred, the
present miserable condition in which the
working class finds itself, and clearly
and forcibly explained the way out of it.

When Donohue got through, Britz in-
troduced J. T. Hunter. It did not take
long for Hunter, in his usual forcible
way, to get the audience with him. The
crowd by that time increased to fully
four hundred. The meeting was a great
success. Fifteen pamphlets were sold
and four applications for membership
to the Party were taken at the meeting,
and in going home one man who stood
throughout the evening listening to the
speakers followed them and gave his
name in also, making it five in all.

GRAFT INCARNATE.

Mine Workers' Officials Force Men to
Strike for the Check-Off.

Terre Haute, Ind., August 15.—Fol-
lowing the issuing of a circular by the
Operators' Association instructing the
mine owners to discontinue the "check
off," the officers of the United Mine
Workers, who would thus lose their
graft on the miners, have called a sus-
pension of work in the Indiana bitumin-
ous coal field, and as a result 10,000 men
will quit work this afternoon.

INDUSTRY PARALYZED

AWFUL DEMORALIZATION AMONG
STEEL WORKERS.

Reports of Great Resumption All in the
Press Agents' Eye—All the Aged and
Middle-Aged Workers Forced Out by
Panics—Socialism Now Prominently
Discussed in the Shops as the Only
Hope.

Columbus, O., Aug. 11.—Truly this is
a wonderful country. Who would have
dared to assert fifteen years ago that
we could survive another panic! Yet we
are in the midst of one more acute than
that of 1893, and in many small cities
and towns it is not felt. The country
is so vast and has such diversified in-
dustries that enough business goes on
to keep the ship of state from going into
the shallows.

In the cities like Cleveland, Pittsburg
and Youngstown, where steel is king, the
worst suffering prevails. But for a
temporary demand for tin plate and
sheet steel the steel industry would be
utterly demoralized. If things continue
in the blast furnaces, merchant bar, pud-
dling and steel mills as they are now,
the suffering will be intense this winter.

Over in Youngstown you read reports
from Pittsburg that 50,000 men are
going back to work in Allegheny coun-
ty in the mills. Two days afterward you
meet men from there looking for jobs in
Youngstown, and who will tell you that
everything is dead in Pittsburg. The
campaign managers have some fine press
agents all right, but the men looking for
jobs are paying no attention to the lying
reports of the press. Truly nothing more
despicable was ever seen than the servile
attempts made by the press to manu-
facture prosperity. Such a little thing
as starting a mill up and putting five or
six hundred more men in it than it ever
employed before is an easy task for the
capitalist correspondent.

A look into the mills reveals a start-
ling state of affairs. The grey heads
have disappeared. The writer in look-
ing over the crews of a tin mill in Can-
ton, O., found but few middle aged men.
All are young and athletic. One
young fellow told me the old fellows
were forced out because they could not
keep up the pace.

In Youngstown and such towns the
demoralization is awful. Thousands
"blow in" and hang around looking for
a job. How they live is a mystery. This
crazy system has a lot to answer for,
but nothing is so criminal as the waste
of human life as seen now in our in-
dustrial centers. Men become denizens
of the slums, hopeless and shattered. The
district around the Brown-Bonnell mills
at Youngstown is as bad as that in any
large city. When we realize that things
will be worse as the crazy system de-
velops the picture is awful to contem-
plate.

There's nothing to do but grit our
teeth and keep up the fire. The senti-
ment is growing all over and it is pleas-
ing to note that in the mills Socialism
is the topic for discussion.

B. R.

NORTH BAY'S "PILLARS."

An Innocent Ontario Town Gets on the
Map of Scoundrelism.

North Bay, Ont., August 10.—North
Bay is now fully entitled to a place on
the map as there have been two suicides
and one attempt during the last month.

Also there are here an ex-town treas-
urer and a tax collector who hocus-po-
cussed about \$30,000 of the town's
money out of sight, and while this has
been known for several months, neither
of them is behind the bars.

One of them happens to be the police
magistrate and has been sending the
unfortunate fellows that were swiping
a few cents or stealing rides on the Cana-
dian Pacific Railway to prison for
months. In one instance he sent a young
fellow to jail for six months for ex-
changing hats with another; but as he
himself walked off with \$25,000 of the
town's money, and is a pillar of society
here, he is entitled to much more con-
sideration.

But that is not all. A certain Mrs.
La Mothe first threatened to kill her
husband and then did kill herself. This
same police magistrate, ex-tax collector,
pillar of society, was primarily respon-
sible for the woman's actions, he having
been out hobnobbing with her several
days previous, while his good wife was
worrying over his absence.

To-day for the first time a write-up
appeared in a newspaper, but they failed
to mention his friendship for a prostitu-
tute. What standards of morals capi-
talist society does set up!

F. E. J.

The New York Labor News Company
is the literary agency of the Socialist
Labor Party. It prints nothing but
sound Socialist literature.

UNCLE SAM AND
BROTHER JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN—Your So-
cialists are all wrong!

UNCLE SAM—Inasmuch as to which!

B. J.—Why, don't you see, you want
to rob the capitalists of their factories
and machinery. That's wrong. That's
just as wrong as for them to want to
rob the workers of too much of what they
produce. You'll never do anything that
way. The workingmen will have to get
together with the capitalists and form
an agreement by which they will each
get a fair share.

U. S.—Your position is that a man
who has property, provided he got it
honestly, ought to be allowed to keep
it—

B. J.—Exactly.

U. S.—Regardless of how he uses it?

B. J.—Yes. If he uses it wrongly,
let him be compelled by law to use it
right, but let him keep it.

U. S.—Alright. Here we go, cavalry
and artillery, right through your posi-
tion.

B. J. braces himself.

U. S.—Jeff Davis and the Southern
plantation owning middle-class men he
represented, possessed slaves?

B. J.—Yes.

U. S.—Acquired honestly, by pur-
chase?

B. J.—Yes.

U. S.—Frightfully maltreated, and
exploited by their owners to the last
farthing?

B. J.—Ye-es.

U. S.—And did they get together,
master and slave, and come to an agree-
ment to fleece the slaves less?

B. J.—No, indeed! We marched down
there, "

CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

A SOUNDING CAMPAIGN SLOGAN.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The boys out here are pushing the campaign to the slogan:

"If you send me into danger,
Just give me a Smith and Wesson;
And if I need another man,
Why, give me one like Preston."
J. L. Sherman,
Luna Landing, Ark., August 5.

ENDORSE PRESTON'S NOMINATION BY CONVENTION.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—At a regular meeting of Section New Bedford, held August 3rd, it was unanimously voted to endorse the action of the recent National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party in nominating our intrepid comrade, Martin R. Preston, for President.

J. Claudino,
New Bedford, Mass., August 6.

PICKING HIS WAY THROUGH THE TANGLE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Many times in the past I have wished to write down how it was that I learned to appreciate the great doctrine of Socialism, how it was that I progressed from that position where I thought that Socialism was a dangerous mixture of idiosyncrasy and anarchism, to that where I am sure that Socialism stands for progress and the emancipation of the race. No guidance in the matter did I receive from those near and dear to me. My father always worked hard to raise his family, and voted the Republican ticket with a regularity like unto that of the tides. To him Socialism was so far away that the present generations need give it no thought, while to profess it was to menace your job, or as I would say, your chance to be exploited.

My school days were almost passed away, those days when I with the rest of the Republican boys, and even the girls, shouted for McKinley, and tackled Bryan with rhymes that hurt the feelings of the little Democrats. We at school of course always reflected the feelings of the parents at home. I might say we were in the parental grooves, and stood a good chance of remaining there for a long time to come. One day after the elections the teacher was questioning the pupils on the results of the political contests, and quizzing our feelings. Of course the ones who sang of Bryan and his virtues were down at the mouth and feeling blue, while the victors could hardly restrain themselves. I remember how hard it was for me to wait my turn to arise and proclaim the fact that I always stood for McKinley and the Republicans. Then I sat down and resumed my efforts to prevent the boy who was seated across the way from becoming a turn-coat. He wanted to desert Bryan in the dark hour of defeat and come over to the camp of glory. But that wouldn't do at all. There would be less glory for us if we had to give him some, so I threatened to tell the teacher if he dared to turn off the songs he had shouted for Bryanism two days before. He said that he'd "lick" me after school, but still he subsided.

At last the teacher came to Annie, she of the blonde hair and the blue eyes, for her expression. Annie was brave even if she did rise to her feet slowly, and hesitate for a minute before she spoke. "I am a Socialist, and we were beaten yesterday, but we will win some time."

I remember that a smile of good natured toleration played around the mouth of the teacher for a time. I smiled too, but a wave of sympathy for the poor foolish Socialists swept over me. The Bryan people, and the followers of McKinley forgot their differences and grinned in unison.

Soon after, I left school and went to work, for my father needed my help in supporting a large family. As time went on I forgot all about Socialism and the school-room incident. "But we will win some time," the strangely significant prophecy of my girl school mate passed from my mind, and did not recur till a number of years had quietly glided away.

Once there came to our town a lecturer sent out by the Socialist party, Fitzpatrick by name. As I came out of work one night I was handed a card inviting me to come to a certain hall that night and hear him speak. At that time I didn't think Socialism

deserved much consideration, but as I had nothing else to do I decided to go.

I listened to the man intently, and from that time I date my interest. I heard with indignation rising the condition of people in the great industrial centers. I thought that his arraignment of that new class to me—the capitalist class—was justified, as was the blistering sarcasm that he hurled at the two great political parties. So enthusiastic was I that I gave a good part of my small amount of pocket money to the collector. And I made up my mind to subscribe to the Appeal to Reason as soon as I had the price.

For many days my interest in the great ideas I had discovered maintained itself. I talked of the wonder of the wonders of the ideas with the hoary-headed old helper in the blacksmith shop until I endangered my job.

But I never ordered the Appeal to Reason, and my interest in Socialism wore away until the subject was all but forgotten. From time to time I read Wayland's paper, but I could not become reconciled to its advertising columns. I could never see how a paper that claimed to point the way to freedom could stoop to assist miserable quacks deceive its readers into buying fake nostrums, cancer cures, consumption cures, and the like. I could never trust a paper that was continually founding Socialist colonies in out of the way places. The Appeal will tell you in its advertising columns how to earn ten thousand dollars a year. If the wage slave can earn so much, what is the sense of that paper working for the republic of the producers? That paper from time to time tells its readers how to get rich quick. Such an ad. works positive injury to the movement of the proletarian. It leads him in many cases on a rain-bow chase, and he forgets to consider his true condition and possibilities. When I considered these actions I was sure that it would not be proper for me to support such a paper.

As time went on I became acquainted with a man in the shop who held peculiar views on subjects of which we talked. This man frowned on bounding enthusiasm, and demanded logical tests. He was a logician to the core and his mind seemed to penetrate to the center, to the heart of any subject. He never had an opportunity to study geometry, but in spite of this fact no problem in that branch of mathematics could baffle him. Whenever he had spare time he was either reading or arguing.

Soon I found that he and I could never agree on any matter that came up for discussion. Everything was hotly debated. My ideas, born of my capitalistic environments, clashed with his, and mine were always worsted. Now and then he gave me a book or a paper, and it was through him that I became acquainted with the Weekly People. Making me acquainted with The People I consider the greatest service he ever rendered me.

Most all of the pamphlets he brought to me can be found on the pages of the catalog issued by the Labor News Co. They were very interesting and I studied them until a great light began to fill my mind. Every issue of the Labor News Company that was given me was searched from cover to cover. Now I began to understand the real greatness of the philosophy, its wonderful breadth, its justice, its logic, its necessity that struck me with force.

But still my good fortune continued. I learned to know another proletarian who had been given the power to see. I talked with him and I learned. He held views like those of the first comrade I had met. They were great friends and never argued. Both of them explained to me continually. One day I gave the second acquaintance a piece of money, and requested him to have the Weekly People sent to me. I considered this an important step, and do so now after having had the paper come for eighteen months. It proved to be a powerful light that throws its beams on the truths of Socialism and the troubles of the age in a way that reveals with startling clearness the necessity of action. Every week I read the Weekly some new phase of the vast subject presents itself to me, and I want to say now that if every proletarian read and understood this paper, private ownership of the machinery of production would come to an end.

I continued my study and went over Kautsky's four valuable pamphlets, Debs and De Leon on industrial unionism, the pamphlet on the Haymarket case, Herve on Antipatriotism, Anarchism versus Socialism, several on Trade

Unions, De Leon on Unity, Marx on Mallock by De Leon, and many others. All along I realized more and more that the S. L. P. was building on the bedrock of science, of materialism. And now I am sure that it will cause no surprise when I say that I joined the Socialist Labor Party.

I became interested in the work of the party and began to take an active part in it. But my activity was cut short by the loss of my job, and now I find myself out here in Nevada in my search for another. Up to date I have made nine unsuccessful applications.

The little school-girl's prophecy—"We will win some day," is true.

G. F. Sherwood,
Sparks, Nev., August 4.

ENGLISH COTTON OPERATIVES' WAGES.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I saw some time ago a request from a comrade as to the average wages of the cotton operatives in England. I recently came across some information on this subject given by the Master Cotton Operatives' Association themselves. As you may know we have here in England the usual craft union principle of brotherhood between Capital and Labour strongly brought to the front when it is a question of bad trade and the masters want a reduction, but carefully sunk when it is a question of good trade and the workers want an increase—sunk by both the masters and their labour lieutenants, the Trades Union (B) leaders.

Recently, owing, they say, to "bad trade," the masters want 5 per cent. reduction. The capitalist press give the masters' own figures, viz, that this will affect 38,000,000 spindles, 100,000 workers and save £5076 per week.

The arithmetic which our capitalist masters (kind souls!) have tangled us in order not that we might calculate out our own wages, but their profits, here comes to our aid; and if 5 per cent. equals £5076, 100 per cent. equals 20 times as much, somewhere over £100,000 per week as the weekly wage of 100,000 men, WOMEN, and CHILDREN, in other words HANDS. So that a little over £1 per week is their miserable wage.

The masters have been making 38 per cent. profit on their own showing. Some of these operatives get £3 to £3 10s. per week, i. e., the spinner, who has to pay his piece out of it, leaving him from £2 to £2 10s. per week. If 50s. is the highest and 20s. the average what is the lowest? And child labour in on the increase in Lancashire.

W. G. Allan,
Hopwood, Heywood, near Manchester, England, August 3.

DRIVEN TO CRIME TO MAINTAIN FAMILIES.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The following instances will show how, under our present industrial system, men are compelled to become criminals. A few years ago the paying teller in a bank here stole a few thousand dollars. Upon being arrested and asked by the bank superintendent why he took the money, and if he had no thought for his family when he did it, he said: "It was to provide for them that I did it."

Another paying teller in the same bank stole \$10,000, and upon being discovered he shot himself. His reasons for taking the money were also, "He had to provide for his family."

In the N. Y. Herald of Aug. 2, last Sunday, we read: "Made Counterfeits to pay for a home. Prisoner arrested in Missouri declares he wanted to provide for his family. To his wife he wrote, 'The little house is ours now. We will be able to keep all the children in school until they are graduated.'"

Under Socialism there would be no such cases as these.

R. S.,
New York, Aug. 4.

WHO CAN ANSWER?

To the Daily and Weekly People:—According to the statute laws of Germany, would a debtor be imprisoned upon his inability to pay his debts? Of course, it is understood that the debts are contracted in good faith.

P. R. P.,
Brooklyn, N. Y., July 17.

OH! HOW THEY HOWL.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—"Oh, how they howl, capitalist degenerates, idle exploiting class, living from the sweat of the workers' brow." The Altoona "Times," dated August 3rd, says: "Gillhaus missing." How absurd!

If Gillhaus has disappeared, it would only be through the criminal practices adopted by this class of parasites. I for one have met August Gillhaus personally and have had the pleasure of having him in my home, and I can conscientiously and honestly and without fear of contradiction say that he is a man in every respect and I feel that the S. L. P. has acted for the best interests of the Party and every person concerned by nominating August Gillhaus as proxy

for M. R. Preston, our martyred candidate.

With our Vice-Presidential candidate, Donald Munro, I am also personally acquainted, he having resided in Altoona for a number of years. He is the right man for the place and is deserving of the honor conferred on him.

It is a great pleasure to witness the antics of this worthless, no-good class of do-nothings who work you to death one day and then starve you the next. The S. L. P. is certainly getting them into close quarters. If a shoe doesn't pinch I am content to wear it without complaining; but if I am compelled to wear it and it is too little for me, then I complain. The capitalist class is being crowded by the S. L. P. If the S. L. P. tactics are wrong, then the capitalist has nothing to fear; but the best proof that the S. L. P. tactics are right is to listen to "How they howl." The S. L. P. shoe hurts. It is getting tighter every year. After a while there will be no room for the capitalist foot, but down on the level with the working class foot, and then his usefulness will begin.

Until that time comes let us be up and doing. Spread the light whenever possible, roll in the subscriptions, push the propaganda, and eventually we can say that the battle is over and the victory is won!

Wage Slave,
Juniata, Pa., August 8.

AN ITALIAN TO ITALIANS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Having read in the Italian paper named the Ragione Nuova, that the Italian Section of Keystone, W. Va., passed to the S. L. P., I hope all the Italian Sections will do the same, and leave the Italian Socialist Federation only the name, for it has no right to exist in the United States.

My best regards to all, and the Italian Sections.

Yours for the Cause,
Paul Malorana,
Houston, Tex., Aug. 9.

PRESTON'S NOMINATION NO MISTAKE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I would like to reply to S. B. Hutchinson of Grand Junction, Col.

In his correspondence of the 25th inst. he states the S. L. P. at the last convention made a mistake in naming Preston for President.

It is only about a year ago that Hutchinson asked the S. L. P. of California to endorse W. D. Haywood as candidate for Governor. Why did he do so? Simply because he and the rest of the Grand Junction section thought Haywood was wrongfully imprisoned; and if Haywood was wrongfully imprisoned and deserved the support of his fellow workers, then why should not this also apply to Preston?

We of the S. L. P. are organized for the purpose of educating the working class to their true class interests and teaching it all the injustice that is and has been meted out to the proletariat all over the world. By nominating Preston the S. L. P. has shown the true revolutionary spirit by taking up the fight, not only of Martin Preston, but of all the Prestons of the working class, whether in or out of prison.

Never mind the questions that are being fired at the S. L. P. speakers. When one of our speakers goes out on the soap box to address the wage slaves, he has no apologies to make to any lawyers or scheming politicians. He has a message to deliver to the only useful class in society—the working class. How else can the workingmen learn what led up to the strike in Goldfield and caused the little tool of the mine owners of that camp to attack Preston, thus leading to the killing of the servile tool of the mining gamblers? When the working class learn the truth, then they will see the wisdom of placing Preston before the eyes of the working class in spite of petty lawyers and the crooks who are sponging upon the working class. And those are the only ones who will ridicule Preston's nomination.

D. Rudnick,
Kenosha, Wis., July 30.

HOW TO PUSH THE PARTY PRESS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Street meetings at best can only be elementary, and as such every comrade can help. The main point at every public meeting should be for the speaker to sell subscription cards to the Party press. Every argument, whether historical, sociological, or on current topics, should aim toward and culminate with an appeal to buy the sub cards, the same as any public vendor leads up to the sale of his wares.

In my recent trip across the country I have seen quite a number of brilliant meetings, both in halls and on streets, but it seemed to me that the best part was entirely overlooked when they failed to sell sub cards from the platform. The most elementary beginner can at least show up the dependence of the capitalist press on advertisements, "ninety per cent. of which are either out and out raw frauds, or outrageous lies and exaggerations" and

subsidies for literary prostitution, and the necessity of relying on a collectively owned Socialist press. If your audience cannot afford to buy sub cards, take up a collection from the crowd and ask for names of those who will read the paper and send them the paper. In Seattle and San Francisco the street meetings are simply literature selling affairs, and the speakers plainly tell the crowds that they are not there for their health or sermonizing, but to sell literature, mainly sub cards, and develop brains. Section Seattle has a news stand down town in the busy section, and every person who buys cigars, is given Socialist literature, and is courteously invited to the reading room and asked to subscribe for The People. All the other language papers are pushed likewise.

Section San Francisco has a news stand, cigar and soft drinks counter, also a laundry agency with headquarters and reading room in rear. Here, too, literature is sold, but the location for selling papers is not quite as good as Section Seattle's but Long is looking for a stand on the water front. The boys are talking of starting a traveling news cart. O'Hanrahan of Seattle breaks everybody into his literature selling machine, and is a good hustler. Long of Frisco and Haller of Los Angeles are the other coast hustlers.

In the majority of cities I had difficulty finding the headquarters. I would suggest that all Sections advertise their headquarters in The People, also the address of secretaries of State Committees, so that members moving around can be kept track of and their abilities exploited for the benefit of the Party.

I hope in the near future to see these newstands and reading rooms run by the S. L. P. all over the United States. P. S.—Don't forget to sell sub cards.

Rolling Stone,
Los Angeles, Cal., August 5.

VAT IS DER USE?

To the Daily and Weekly People:—

Ours for the tall timber, never more to return. It's all off. Close up The People plant, sell the machinery for old junk, put the money into U. S. 4's, for "Socialism will never gain a foothold in America, for we are a thoroughly practical people, and if an American has one hundred dollars he doesn't want to divide it with some one who has not!"—according to whom? Why, "Prexy" Eliot, of Harvard University, according to the Boston "Post" of the 8th inst.

The railroad company ran a cheap excursion to Nantasket Beach yesterday, so, desirous of obtaining a breath of fresh salt air, I took the trip to that justly popular beach "kissed by ocean breezes." I climbed the rocks, walked over to Green Hill and Nantasket Point, watched the fishermen's children at play in their tiny punts and dories, sat on the rocks and thoroughly enjoyed myself until—yes, fate was against me! I dropped into a restaurant for a bite. On the table was a copy of the Boston "Post." Across the first page I read—two columns wide, black face type—"Socialism Impossible." Amazed, shocked, frightened, I read on. "Ah!" I thought, "my old college chump," "Prexy" Eliot. He is out again. The intellectual giant who instructs the unfortunate young men under him that scabs are heroes."

So I got over being scared. I just laughed at "Prexy," dear, old benighted, half-baked, though knavish "Prexy," for, if Mr. Eliot is honest in believing Socialism means "dividing up," he is a fool; if he knows better, then he is a fraudulent knave for deceiving people on so important a study. I laughed so loud at "Prexy" that a bluefish heard me and stopped in his pursuit of a school of menhaden to wonder what caused the unseemly noise. "Prexy" would have us acting towards one another as the bluefish acts toward the menhaden, warlike, or best-like, for the bluefish chews up the menhaden just for the fun of it, like a capitalist exploiting a six-year-old babe, after the capitalist has all he can spend should he live forever.

No, "Prexy," you're wrong, Socialism is inevitable. It might cost you your job to admit it, but that's "materialism," isn't it?

E. A. See,
East Providence, R. I., August 8.

THE SUE STORIES.

The following books of the series are now in print:

The Gold Sickle 50 cents.
The Brass Bell 50 cents.
The Pontard's Hill 75 cents.
The Branding Needle 50 cents.
The Infant's Skull 50 cents.
The Pilgrim's Shell 75 cents.
The Iron Trevel 75 cents.
New York Labor News Co.,
28 City Hall Place,
New York City.

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

S. H. GOLDFIELD, NEV.—Now to your third point—

Did Preston, indeed, want to improve his opportunity, when he was thrust into jail, by reading economics?—That can hardly be scored against him. Better such literature than trashy radical stuff.

E. T. C., NEW YORK.—The exact passage from the Rev. Malthus is this:

"A man born in an already occupied world—if his family has not the means of supporting him, or if society requires not his labor, that man has no right to demand any nourishment, however small. He is really one too many in the world; at the great table of nature there is no place for him."

G. C., NEW ORLEANS, LA.—Hearst and his Independence party! Sunset Cox once told the story of a husband whose wife was about to present a wee stranger to the household. The husband was in the next room waiting for the event in great excitement and very anxious to know the newcomer's sex. The nurse appeared, and he rushed forward and exclaimed: "Am I a father or am I a mother?" That's Hearst's condition. Is he a father or is he a mother?

X. Y. Z., ILL.—Send your name to this office. Not for publication. Article will then be published.

S. D., BUTTE, MONT.—Keep up courage. "When vice prevails and impious men bear sway, the post of honor is a private station." That would be true enough only in the mouth of one who despairs of the fight, and looks for a pretext to drop out.

D. H., HARTFORD, CONN.—If the article about the "discovery of a new Virgin" in Mexico sounds to you unsound, you may have reasonable space to refute it. But leave out all vitriolic utterances, stick to facts and reasoning, and do not adopt expressions and modes of argument that savor of the bigotry of the Dark Ages and that suggest the stake as an argument against people who do not share your views.

R. L. C., PHOENIX, ARIZ.—Conventions are inevitable consequences of the co-operation of a large number of men, spread over a large area, towards a common purpose. Where all the people aiming at a common purpose can meet and deliberate, then no conventions are needed; then representative government is unnecessary; then government is direct. When, direct government is impossible, through the numbers interested, then representative government and conventions become indispensable. Discussion by word of mouth is comparatively short. Discussion in print would be interminable. It would take all eternity for 10,000 people to read the argument of one man, then read the arguments for and against of all the others. Nothing could be done. Conventions, like co-operation, imply large organization, and that, in turn, implies delegated authority. The people are sovereign. A sovereign may delegate his authority.

HOW THEY HOWL

Comments of the Capitalist Press on the Nomination of Preston.

New York, August 3. — Gillhaus is missing and the Socialist Labor Party is without an active presidential candidate. Never hear of Gus? He's the proxy for Martin R. Preston, presidential nominee of the Socialist Laborites, but, as Preston is in jail, Gillhaus was to have run in his stead with the proviso that when elected he should pardon Preston and name him as secretary of state.

New York Socialist Labor lights today are wildly seeking for Gillhaus. He was last heard of a week ago in Seattle, Wash. If you have any later information send it to Daniel De Leon, New York post-bag of the party, and the Socialist Laborites will thus again be in the race for the White House.—Altoona, Pa., "Times," Aug. 3.

Martin Preston, the Socialist Labor candidate for President, is in prison serving a 25-year sentence for manslaughter, so it has been suggested that the Socialist Labor party run a proxy candidate to represent the policies of Preston. It is pointed out that the Republican party has set the example in this regard, in running a proxy for President Roosevelt. — Seattle, Wash., "Times," August 5.

By naming for the presidency a criminal condemned to serve a 25 years' sentence for murder, organized Socialism flouted every sane-minded American. This action is not to be looked upon as

M. B., PASADENA, CALIF.—The civilization of Egypt preceded that of Greece.

A. R., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—It does not follow from a successful and bloodless revolution being put through in Turkey that there could be no classes there. What the successful and bloodless revolution in Turkey indicates is that there the bourgeois class was so overwhelmingly powerful, as against the Sultanate, that the latter caved in. Whereas, in Russia, it was otherwise. Among the things that lamed the arm of the bourgeois revolution in Russia was the injection of the Socialist force into the arena. That deprived the bourgeois element of many of the "nobility" who would otherwise have sided with the Constitutional Democrats. These being lamed, and the Socialist forces being too weak, the Czar won out bloody.

G. A., HANNAFORD, N. D.—The W. F. of M. did not reaffiliate with the I. W. W. Capitalist papers' reports to the contrary are false.

Next question next week.

J. J. H., ELIZABETH, N. J.—Get a set of Daily Peoples beginning with last July 6. The matter of Preston is very fully set forth in the several articles upon him. Shortly summarized: There was a restaurant keeper in Goldfield named Silva. About a year and a half ago Silva withheld the wages arbitrarily from one of his waitresses. A strike was ordered; all the girls came out, and pickets were set up by the Union. These did their work so effectively that Silva's place was empty of customers. The man flew in a rage one day and rushed out of his place with a gun pointing it at Preston, who happened to be on picket duty. Thus assaulted Preston drew and shot Silva dead. Thereupon he was tried and "convicted" by a jury upon which there was one "Appeal to Reason" reader, several Pinkertons and a bank-robbor or two. His sentence was 25 years. Joe Smith, the previous secretary of the Union, was also tried and also "convicted" to 10 years as an "accomplice," although he was not there at all. Subsequently, Vincent St. John and several others were also put under arrest for alleged complicity but were discharged. The shooting of St. John by Paddy Mul-laney and Mullaney's being allowed to go on bail furnished by the Goldfield mine owners were the closing scenes of the Silva affair.

EQUAL RIGHTS LEAGUE, N. Y.—Your announcement of the Friday meeting arrived only on Friday—too late.

A. S. D., BEARDSTOWN, ILL.; R. C., SPOKANE, WASH.; T. R., DE VORE, CALIF.; D. R., KENOSHA, WIS.; J. B., BOULDER, COLO.; H. H. L., NE WHAVEN, CONN.; C. W. W., CHICAGO, ILL.; M. E., CINCINNATI, O.; W. I. F., VANCOUVER, WASH.; S. L., SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH; K. S. H., OGDEN, WASH.; A. E. R., BOSTON, MASS.; E. R. M., PITTSBURG, PA.; H. L. B., NEW YORK.—Matter received.

a ghastly joke, for we are assured that those who perpetrated it were bitterly in earnest. If they named their man in sheer contempt of existing canons, both human and divine, their procedure might be counted strong and significant. It ought to prove fairly enlightening to honest and progressive young men who are being allured by Socialist ideas and principles.—Catholic Transcript.

"The Socialist"

Official Organ of the Socialist Labor Party of Great Britain.

A Monthly Publication and the Only Periodical in the British Isles Espousing Revolutionary Working Class Politics and Industrial Unionism.

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28 City Hall Place, New York.

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Paul Augustine, National Secretary,
28 City Hall Place,
CANADIAN S. L. P.
National Secretary, Philip Courtenay,
144 Duchess Ave., London, Ont.
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
(The Party's literary agency.)
28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.
Notice—For technical reasons no party
announcements can go in that are
not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

GILLHAUS TOUR EASTWARD.

In making the arrangements for this
tour, the N. E. C. had in mind the ob-
ject of a Campaign Agitation earlier
than usual, combined with the purpose
of organizing wherever possible an
route.

It is expected that the comrades of
the Sections where Gillhaus is to speak
will do their utmost to prepare the
meetings for him, and advertise them
thoroughly so as to insure as large an
attendance as is possible.

Devise ways and means that will en-
able you to reach the workers with the
LITERATURE of the Party at these
meetings, and a method that will en-
able the Section to keep in touch with
those it reaches with our literature,
with the object of eventually securing
them as co-workers of the Party.

PUSH THE DAILY AND WEEKLY
PEOPLE.

PUSH THE S. L. P. LITERATURE.

PUSH THE NATIONAL CAM-
PAIGN FUND LISTS.

Butte Mont.—August 21—22.
Fargo, N. D.—August 24.
Duluth, Minn.—August 25.
St. Paul, Minn.—August 26.
Minneapolis, Minn.—August 27—28.
Winona, Minn.—August 29.
Milwaukee, Wis.—August 31—Sep-
tember 1.
Sheboygan, Wis.—September 2.
Chicago, Ill.—September 3, 4 and 5.
Lansing, Mich.—September 7.
Detroit, Mich.—September 8.
Cleveland, Ohio.—September 10.
Indianapolis, Ind.—September 17.
Allegheny County, Pa.—October 1, 2,
3, 4, 5, 6, 7.
Erie County, Pa.—October 8, 9.
Philadelphia, Pa.—October 10, 11, 12.
Allentown, Pa.—October 13, 14.
Paul Augustine, Nat'l Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS S. E. C.

Regular meeting held Thursday,
August 13, at 1165 Tremont street,
Boston. Present: Houtenbrink, Mul-
higan, Bohmbach, and Starfeldt.
Bohmbach, chairman. Minutes of
previous meeting read and approved.
Communications: From Section
New Bedford, ordering due stamps and
forwarding names and addresses of
members in response to the call issued.
From Section Pittsfield, sending money
collected on campaign lists, and or-
dering due stamps. From P. Augustine
National Secretary, due stamps and
matter relative to the National ticket.
From Eliot C. Harding, of Vineyard
Haven, on local matters. From Section
Worcester, stating that meetings had
been shut off Worcester Common Sun-
day afternoons by the powers that be,
allowing one meeting at a time on
City Hall steps. From Stoughton, re-
questing another speaker. A. E. Reimer
reported holding a successful
meeting there; arrangements to be
made for a meeting.
Moved that the State Conference of
Party members be called to order at
10 o'clock Sunday, September 6, in
People's Institute, 1165 Tremont st.,
Boston. Committee of Mulligan and
Sweeney elected to make arrangements
for the conference.
Adjourned.
John Sweeney, Secretary.

NEW JERSEY STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

A regular meeting of this commit-
tee took place August 15, at 131 Laid-
law avenue, Jersey City. Present:
Schwenk, Gerold, Landgraf and Leske.
Landgraf elected chairman. Secre-
tary Hossack not being present, the
reading of the minutes of last meeting
was dispensed with. Leske elected
secretary pro tem.

Correspondence: From Hossack,
sending in his resignation as secretary
on account of ill health. The resigna-
tion was accepted. From Hossack,
sending \$1 for dues from Moren, mem-
ber at large.

The correspondence was received,
and Financial Secretary instructed to
send stamps.

Essex County reported Timofvitch
elected as delegate: held good meetings
and sold much literature. Report re-
ceived, delegate seated and instructed
to present credentials at next meeting.

Hudson County, Branch I, holds reg-
ular meetings every Sunday. Passaic
County reported the circulation of peo-

tion lists; but find themselves handi-
capped. Reports received.

Leske, a committee of one to collect
signatures, reported that a member of
the S. P. and Brewers' Union No. 2
solicited the petition lists with about 100
signatures of citizens on them, and
used insulting language toward Leske.
The S. E. C. received the report and
on motion Leske was empowered to
take the necessary steps to have this
person punished for his act of robbery.
Rudolph Katz appealed to the S. E.
C. against a decision of Section Passaic
County. The Secretary was in-
structed to notify R. Katz, E. Romary,
and the Organizer of Section Passaic
County to be present at the next
meeting of the Committee.

It was decided that Section Hoboken
shall be notified to send a dele-
gate to the State Committee.
Adjournment followed.

E. Leske, Sec'y.

JERSEY CITY OPEN-AIR MEETINGS

Open-air meetings will be held in
Jersey City, under the auspices of the
Socialist Labor Party every SATUR-
DAY evening, at Barrow street and
Newark avenue.

Organizer.

PENNSYLVANIA SIGNATURES.

Comrades getting signatures for nom-
inations in the state of Pennsylvania,
will please hustle and get these papers
filled and sent in in time for the next
S. E. C. meeting, the second Sunday in
September. Don't fail.

L. M. Barbydt.

MICHIGAN VOTERS, ATTENTION!

All voters of the Socialist Labor
Party should enroll.

You cannot vote at primaries nom-
inating candidates unless you enroll.
Registration day as advertised by the
County Election Commission will be
on SATURDAY, August 29. Enroll at
the Registration Board as a voter of
the Socialist Labor Party, giving your
name and address. Unless this is at-
tended to you cannot vote at primary
elections.

The primary elections will be held
on TUESDAY, September 1 in the
various voting places throughout the
state. As the Socialist Labor Party
candidates' names are not printed on
the ballot, you must write in the proper
place the names of our candidates as
chosen at the Party's convention. These
candidates are as follows:

Presidential Electors at Large:

HENRY ULBRICHT,

A. B. LATTA,

Governor:

ARCHIE MCINNIS,

Lieutenant-Governor:

SHEPARD B. COWLES.

Congressman in each district.

County officers, if nominated at pri-
maries in your county.

City officers.

The law calls for a county conven-
tion in each county for election of dele-
gates to State convention.

The date for all county conventions
is SATURDAY, September 12.

The state convention of the Socialist
Labor Party is called for SATURDAY,
October 3, 1908, 8 p. m., room 11, Ave-
nue Theatre Building, Detroit, Mich.,
for transacting of business according
to primary law.

Wm. Hoag, Chairman.

H. Richter, Secretary.

State Central Committee, Socialist La-
bor Party.

ST. LOUIS PICNIC.

Section St. Louis, Socialist Labor
Party, has arranged for a picnic and
outing at Wolz's Grove, on SUNDAY,
August 23, beginning at 9 a. m. Good
music and singing will be had, refresh-
ments of all kinds will be provided.
Games and an all around good time is
guaranteed. Admission 10 cents.

Take Cherokee through cars, change to
Lakewood car, which will take you to
the grove.

LASSALLE MEMORIAL CELEBRATION.

The Hungarian Socialist Labor Or-
ganization, Branch I, N. Y., will arrange
on SATURDAY, August 22nd, at the
Progress Assembly Rooms, 28-30 Avenue
A, for the benefit of the Hungarian
organ, the "Nepkarat," a theatrical
performance and ball.

The play to be produced was recently
suppressed by Count Apponyi, the Hun-
garian Secretary of Religion and Culture,
after its first performance. It deals
with the many wrongs of the present
system.

Admission, 25 cents. Curtain rises at
8 p. m.

BARGAIN LOT OF PAMPHLETS.

Of the pamphlets issued in the Buz-
saw series we still have a quantity of:
American Farmer.

Money.

The Trust.

To close them out we will send 100
copies, assorted, for one dollar.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.

28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.

KEEP YOUR EYE HERE

AND WATCH OUR ACTIVE BRIGADE AT WORK.

They simply stick to the work they
have outlined for themselves and let
no week pass without having obtain-
ed 2 or more subs. Were it not for
them this week's showing would have
been considerably less than 107 subs
to the Weekly and 36 to the Daily
People.

Those sending in two or more:

Oscar Freer, Columbus, O. 2
A. Kaucher, St. Louis, Mo. 2
Fred. Brown, Cleveland, O. 6
I. H. Nasovitch, Mt. Vernon, Wash. 2
J. Burkhardt, Indianapolis, Ind. 2
J. M. Maley, Youngstown, O. 4
L. Alrutz, Schenectady, N. Y. 2
J. Reese, Plainfield, N. J. 2
Chas. Pierson, St. Davids, Ill. 20
W. H. Peak, Pittsburg, Pa. 2
E. Schade, Newport News, Va. 2
J. H. Arnold, Louisville, Ky. 4
H. E. Long, San Francisco, Cal. 7
B. Frankford, Oakland, Cal. 3
L. Glinther, Colo. Springs, Colo. 2
M. Ruther, Holyoke, Mass. 2
C. A. Ruby, Rochester, N. Y. 2
Geo. W. Ohls, Pittsburg, Pa. 2
J. Kircher, Cleveland, O. 2
Prepaid cards:—K. Georgevitch,
New York \$1.40; Ben. Frankford, Oak-
land Cal., \$10.00; D. McGoff, New
Bedford, Mass., \$1.00.

Labor News sales for the week are

below expectations. On the strength
of last week's good showing we were
prepared to make this a record week
but destiny seems to have decreed to
the contrary. We are not all cut out
to be speakers, that is more or less
an inherent accomplishment; but he,
who, as a Party member, does not
spread literature elucidating the Prin-
ciple for which he stands, has utterly
failed in his mission. If you have
done nothing heretofore turn over a
new leaf and commence to-day.

Following are the sales of \$1.00 or
more:

Kansas City, Mo. \$2.00
Luna Landing, Ark. 1.00
Quincy, Ill. 2.05
New York City 9.10
Milwaukee, Wis. 6.00
Mt. Vernon, Wash. 6.50
San Francisco, Cal. 18.13
Dorchester, Mass. 4.20
Peoria, Ill. 4.00
Cleveland, Ohio 2.25
Oakland, Cal. 1.20
Leavenworth, Kan. 1.00
Hudson, Wis. 1.20
Joliet, Ill. 1.00
Section New York 3.00
Providence, R. I. 2.00
Soda Springs, Idaho 2.20
22 and 24 A. D., N. Y. 1.15
9 and 11 A. D., N. Y. 2.60

THE C. P. STRIKE UNEMPLOYED WOMEN

RAILROAD SHOP MEN OUT TO A MAN FOR THEIR RIGHTS.

No Break in Ranks, and Shops Prac-
tically Deserted—Company Making
Much of Few Paltry Wrecks, While
Worse Ones in Recent Weeks Were
Unnoticed—Scab-Hunting Agents in
London.

North Bay, Ont., August 12.—The
Canadian Pacific railroad shop men went
out here to a man, and all over the Lake
Superior Division, of which this is head-
quarters.

Before quitting they put every tool
in its proper place and also advised the
shop foreman that they had no grievance
against him.

The men have instructions to stay
away from the shops and yards, which
they are doing. The company has spe-
cial officers here of the hang-dog variety,
also cars to accommodate scabs—if they
can get them.

The heads of departments and office
help have been pressed into helping with
trains. Some trains leave without being
properly inspected.

The freight handlers were asked to
supply the trains with water, ice, etc.;
they refused and were discharged. Later
the men of the bridge and building de-
partment were asked to go out and clear
up wrecks, and they also refused.

There were two alarming reports, so
some papers state: on the 7th an engine
ditched at Kenora, and a fire at North
Bay. At any other time these occur-
rences would go unnoticed. (There have
been several similar fires during the last
two years in the North Bay yards, and
there were no insinuations that they
were incendiary. However, the officials
here do not blame the strikers, but say
that it was rattle-brained sympathizers.

As to the engine being derailed, a per-
son unacquainted with the Canadian
Pacific Railway might think it was very
unusual. But for the people and the
road men along this division where there
have been so many serious wrecks, where
seldom a week goes by without one, it is
to laugh at the noise now being made
about the little mishaps of the past
week. For instance, the last serious
wreck two weeks ago was a double
wreck. First a freight piled up in a
tangle of machinery and bridge steel,
then the first section of a passenger train
having to stop, the second section came
up and ploughed into it, killing and
maiming several.

The prospects for the men winning are
exceedingly good, and it is gratifying
to the militant to know that this is a
shopmen's strike. These men have
learned that all, whether machinists or
boilermakers, must stand and act to-
gether. It is to be hoped that they will
continue to progress along this line and
get the train and track men to join
forces with them in one grand organiza-
tion along industrial lines.

F. E. J.

Iron Trade Cut in Half.

According to the American Iron and
Steel Association the pig iron produc-
tion of the United States in the first
half of 1908 was 6,818,004 gross tons,
against 12,303,317 tons in the last half
of 1907 and 13,475,044 tons in the first
half of 1907.

Watch the label on your paper. It
will tell you when your subscription
expires. First number indicates the month,
second, the day, third, the year.

WISCONSIN S. L. P.

STRONG STATE TICKET UP—NA-
TIONAL CONVENTION ENDORSED.

One of Milwaukee's Hardest Workers
Heads Socialist Labor Party's Wis-
consin Candidates—Resolutions Place
State Fully in Line with National Pro-
gram.

Milwaukee, Wis., August 8.—The So-
cialist Labor Party of Wisconsin has
nominated the following State ticket:

Governor:
HERMAN BOTTEMA,
Milwaukee;

Lieutenant-Governor:
ALBERT WANG,
Superior;

Secretary of State:
JOHN VIERTHALER,
Milwaukee;

State Treasurer:
F. FARCHMIN,
Sheboygan;

Insurance Commissioner:
THEODORE HORN,
Milwaukee;

Presidential Electors:
CARL BARTSCH,
C. SCHULZ,
AUGUST SCHNABEL,
HENRY BOLL,
J. MAGLITSCH,
HENRY SCHILD,
J. BYER,
H. DUNKEL,
FRED KREMER,
E. WEGNER,
WILLIAM BYER;

Electors-at-Large:
R. BABNICK,
CHARLES KAESTNER.

The following resolution was adopted:
"Whereas, The Republican and Demo-
cratic parties have in the past had op-
portunity to demonstrate that they were
the friends of the working class and
have in every instance failed to do so;
and

"Whereas, Various reform parties have
sprung up and have died and will die
their natural death of impotency be-
cause their existence is only possible
through the assistance of the working
class, who are and have supported them,
but who are gradually becoming class-
conscious of their material interest; and

"Whereas, A so-called Socialist party,
—the Social Democratic Party—is at
present seeking to gain the confidence of
the working class by advocating so-
called labor reforms and Socialism; and

"Whereas, The Social Democratic Party
has violated the fundamental prin-
ciples of Socialism by their past actions,
by endorsing anti-immigration laws, in
repudiating the acts of the International
Socialist Congress, by refusing to confer
on the question of Socialist Unity in
America, thereby forfeiting all claims of
being a Socialist party; therefore be it

"Resolved, That we endorse the action
of the National Convention of the Social-
ist Labor Party, held at New York July
2-6, 1908, and that we call upon all wage
workers to do their duty and vote for
the only party, the Socialist Labor Par-
ty, that stands by its principles, and has
as its standard bearers Morrie Preston
and Donald Munro, and thereby strike a
blow at the chains of wage slavery that
bind them."

A. S.

OPERATING FUND.

Hugo Proues, Newark,
N. J. \$ 1.00
E. C. Thomas, Spokane,
Wash. 1.00
E. W. Collins, Spokane,
Wash. 1.00
Thomas Nuss, Spokane,
Wash. 1.00
O. Berler, New York City
O. J. Hughes, Brooklyn, N. Y.
J. H. Denham, Los Angeles,
Cal. 1.00
Mrs. S. Bast, Los Angeles,
Cal.25
L. D. Bechtel, Los Angeles,
Cal.50
L. C. Haller, Los Angeles,
Cal.15
Holger Schmalfuss, Pitts-
field, Mass. 1.00
A. Weinberg, San Bernar-
dino, Cal. 1.00
Paul Fischer, Seattle,
Wash. 1.00
J. T. Walsh, Seattle, Wash.
Wm. O'Keefe, " " 1.00
A. Gillhaus, " " 1.00
Total \$ 13.40
Previously acknowledged .. 2,904.19
Grand Total \$2,917.59

CHILDREN'S HOUR

Dear Little Comrades:

A few years ago I spent a part of my
vacation in New Jersey.

One day, while I was rambling through
the quiet woods, suddenly a merry laugh
fell upon my ears and echoed among the
uplifted arms of the great tree. Another
and another and still another peal of
laughter told me that there must be a
group of merry-makers near.

I stopped and listened. Yes, they
must be in an opening to my right. That
the group were children I could tell from
the joyous exclamations, cries such as
can come only from lungs filled with
pure fresh air and hearts empty of
worry.

Turning in the direction from whence
the sound came, I made my way through
briars and thorns and thick, low-bending
foliage.

My heart beat fast with sympathetic
joy, for it was three or four years since
I had had the pleasure of hearing such
pure delight from children.

At last I came to an opening in the
trees. Yes! There they were in the
meadow right in front of me, frolicking
and romping, tossing the cocks of new-
mown hay as if intoxicated by its sweet
fragrance.

I forgot that I was a grown-up and
hastened to join them in their mirth,
when—horrors! there before me was a
wide ditch with a barb-wire fence be-
tween it and me. While I was trying to
find a way out a wagon load of hay
drove up, and such scrambling! About
ten managed to get up and left the
timid ones to walk after. I mean run
after, for just then a bell sounded and
by the spy moving of eight or ten pairs
of legs, I figured out it was the supper
bell, instead of the school bell or factory
whistle, which calls them.

From the hayload came a chorus of
"Home was never like this!" A lump
filled my throat as I compared this
group of frolicking, happy boys and girls
with the thousands of children who toil
in the weary-wheeled mills, dark, stuffy
factories, sweatshops and mines for 8,
10 or 12 hours of each day, or, if they do
not work, breathe the disease-filled air
of the dirty yards behind or filthy
streets in front of the tenements of our
great cities.

Arrived at my stopping place I asked
my host to tell me who that group of
children were.

"It must be them there durn old Fresh
Air Kids that P—s keep a-boardin' ev-
ery summer."

"What do you mean by Fresh Air
Kids?" inquired I.

"Why, some society sends 'em out here
to get fresh air an' eggs an' milk for
two weeks. All that's fresh they git is
the air durin' the day at that, for I've
seen the 'hull fourteen of 'em sleepin'
in the one big front room, an' as for
fresh milk, P—s never seen a cow on
the place. They buy the milk and after
skimming the cream off, the Fresh Air
Kids git the milk an' bread for their
suppers. What else them city folks
'spect to git for \$2 per week, anyway?"

"Fresh! I should say they are 'Fresh.'
The way they go on over an apple,
some berries, or a piece o' cake! Sakes
alive! Why, they go mad even over the
flowers and grass, as if they'd never seed
one afore in their lives."

"Have you ever been in the city?" I
asked.

"No," he thundered, "Nor I never want
to, either. From what I seed in pictures
and papers I'd commit a crime an' be
hanged in the State of New Jersey
rather'n be made to go to that party
place called the city."

I didn't wonder.

But that night I lay awake a long
time. I could hear and see in my mind's
eye the yelling and screeching of children
of the poor districts. Then came the

pleasanter picture of that afternoon, the
meadow. And still more pleasant came
the picture of the Socialist Republic,
when, instead of getting only one-fifth
of what he produces, allowing the cap-
italists to get four-fifths for doing noth-
ing, each and every father would get
five-fifths of what he produces, and an
opportunity to work every day he needs
to.

This would give him and his family
a chance to live in a good home, have
plenty of fresh air and nourishing food
all the year round, and opportunity to
go to the country for a change when
they needed it, not by charity, but by
his own earnings. Then his children
need not drink skimmed milk and sleep
fourteen in one room because some one
wishes to make a profit out of their
vacation.

Under Socialism, dear children, no one
will need beg. Each and every one will
have an opportunity to earn what he
needs, and of the best.

Then each child's vacation will be
twenty-one years long, fifty-two weeks
in each year, instead of two weeks out
of fifty-two, as under capitalism to-day.

Lovingly,

AUNT ANNETTA.

A MATTER OF RELIGION.

Two girls of some fourteen or fifteen
years were sitting on a stoop earnestly
disputing about the hard times.

"Well," the elder was saying, "this is
just one of the many things Socialists
are fighting against. When Socialism
comes, times similar to present will be
avoided."

"I have often thought of what you tell
me about Socialism, Maud, but how can
Socialists be good people if they don't
believe in God?"

"Now, Marie, who on earth ever told
you any such nonsense!"

"Kate did."

"Oh, bother Kate! She's always mak-
ing mischief! Many Socialists do be-
lieve in God, but they do not believe in
the church of to-day. Have you ever read
the 'Silver Cross,' by Eugene Sue?"

"No, I haven't."

"Well, I have it in the house; I'll run
in and get it. You can take it home,
ad if you read it you will without doubt
understand what I mean."

A week later the two girls were again
sitting on the same stoop.

"So you see, Socialists are right, do
you not, Marie? I knew you'd under-
stand us better after reading that book."

"Yes, Maud, I was shocked to find that
the religionists of those times were guilty
of the same wrongs as the churches of
to-day."

"Why, Christ preached against the rich
robbing the poor of his day. For this
the pretending religionists condemned
him to death. —Just as the religionists
who claim to be followers of Christ to-
day condemn the Socialist for preaching
against the wrongs of the capitalists
against the working class. I see your
point, Maud. It is the Socialist who
would really make the world a fit place
for human beings to live like brothers.
It is impossible to-day for brotherhood
to exist, while greed holds sway."

"The Socialist, then, is really more
God-loving than some church members
are. I am glad you have begun to read
our books. They will lead you to think
correctly and you will find that it is
your duty and pleasure to join us in our
great cause."

"Socialism! three cheers for the Co-
operative Commonwealth!"

ESTELLE FELDMAN.

MEMORY GEM.

Whether on the scaffold high,
Or in the battle's van,
The fittest place where man can die
Is where he dies for man.

I. W. W. Cigars

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